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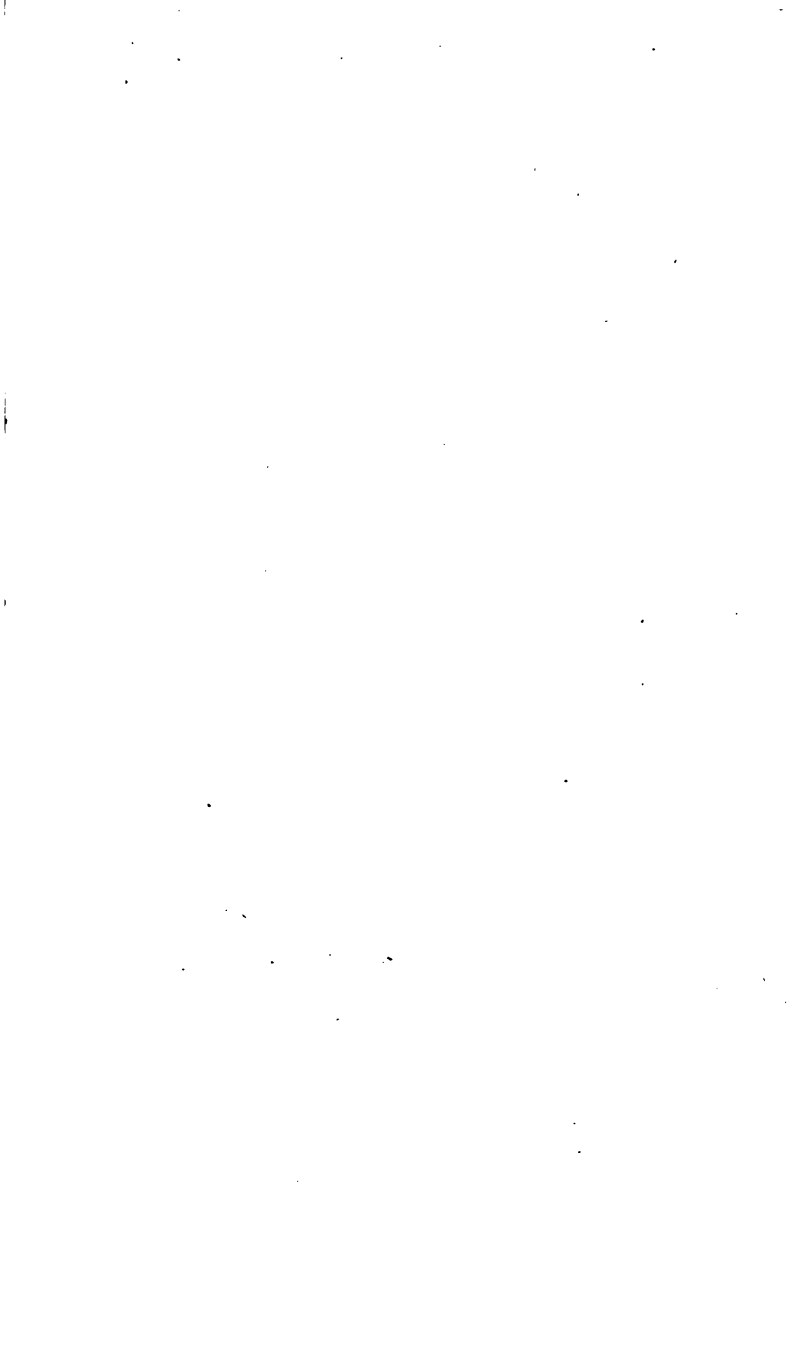


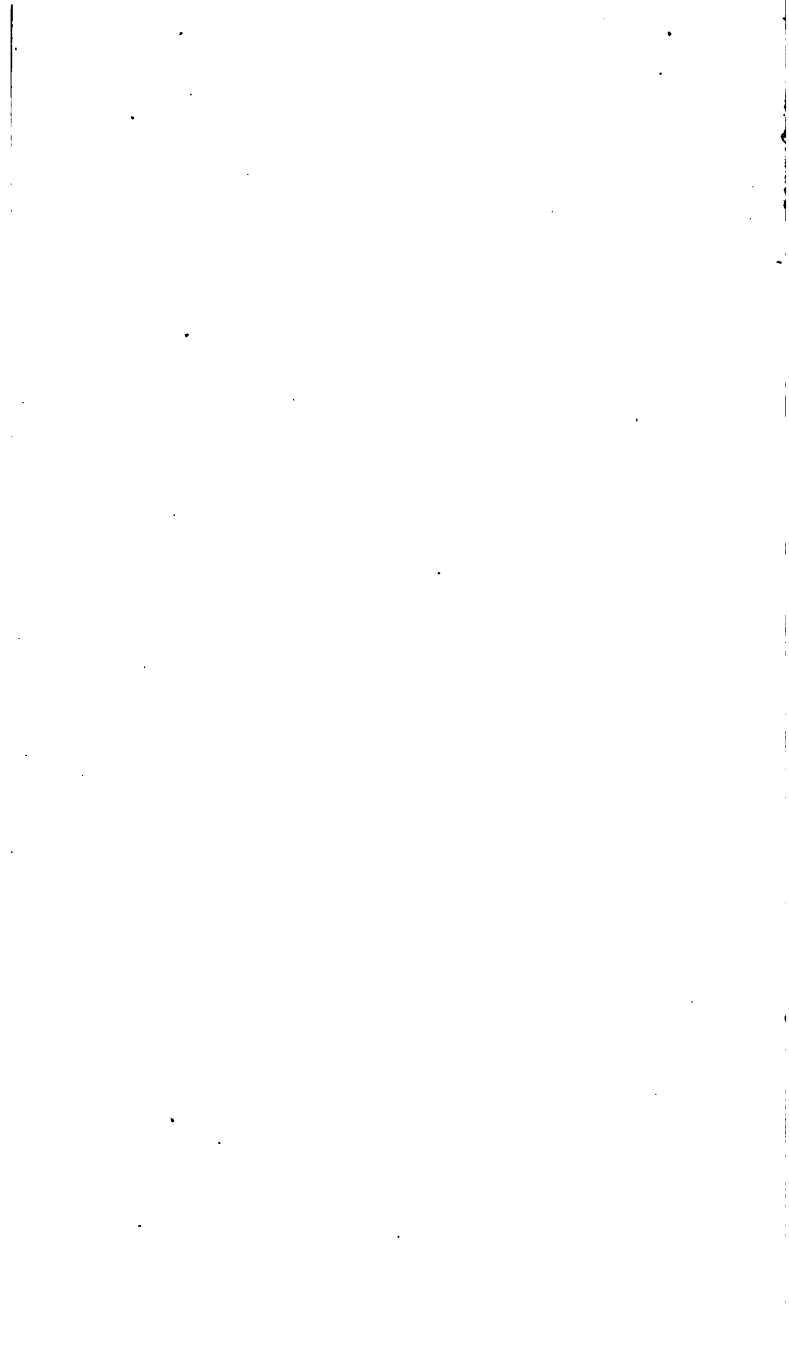
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A

GRAMMAR

OF THE

IRISH LANGUAGE,

COMPILED FROM THE BEST AUTHORITIES,

BY

HENRY J. MONCK MASON,

LL.D. M.R.I.A.

SECOND EDITION.

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FROM THE

PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION.

THE following compilation has long been withheld from the public, in the hope that some person more competent than myself would undertake the work ; but, disappointed in that expectation, and finding that no time should be lost in furnishing the Irish student, I hasten to put it forth.

Let it not be objected, that I am not acquainted with the Irish as a colloquial, but only as a written, language ; I allow it ; but I have not advanced a single rule except upon the best admitted authorities ; and have decided, in cases of doubt, upon the evidence of a majority of the most approved. I have compared Molloy's, Vallancey's, Neilson's, Halliday's, O'Brien's, and O'Reilly's grammars ; and not neglected others.

PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION.

I HAVE for a long time withheld the publishing of a second edition of this work, although it has been sought for by many, by the same reason which made me slow in editing the first. I knew also that it had been severely criticised, and I was unwilling to undertake a controversy. On reading, however, the very illiberal comment to which I allude, I only drew from it the greater confidence; and adopting some of its hints, for which I thank the author, I determined on a reprint. I must remind the public that I am not to be considered as an author, but only a compiler; but I know that I would be an injudicious one, were I to give up the authorities upon which I have hitherto relied, to that of the very reprehensible comment which I have mentioned.

IRISH GRAMMAR.

PART I.

LETTERS.

Their Pronunciation and Orthography.

The Modern Irish Alphabet consists of 18 letters.

Name & Form.			
A	Ḃ	Ḃ	Ḃilm
B	B	b	Beic
C	C	c	Coll
D	Ḃ	d	Ḃuip
E	e	e	Eada
F	F	f	Fearn
G	Ḃ	Ḃ	Ḃon
I	J	i	Joia
L	L	l	Luir
M	Ḃ	m	Ḃuip
N	N	n	Nuip
O	O	o	Oip
P	P	p	Peic
R	R	r	Ruir
S	S	s	Suill
T	T	t	Teine
U	Ḃ	u	Ḃuip
H	h	h	Ḃac

It will appear in the sequel how the powers of the letters V, W, and Y, are expressed in Irish. C has always the pronunciation of K; and X is expressed by cr, as *Exodus*.

Contractions in common use.

e for ea.	w for ui.	4 for aip.	3 for 3an.
7 — aip.	.1. — eadon.	Ḃ — Ḃn.	3 — 3up.
r — ct.	4 — aip.	Ḃ — an.	

The VOWELS are five, viz. three broad, *a*, *o*, *u*, often used promiscuously in ancient manuscripts; and two slender, *e* and *i*.

The following are the sounds of the vowels; and note, that there is but one accent in Irish, to wit, that drawn up from left to right, as *baṛ*; and it always denotes a long syllable: it is called, *ṛíne fáda*.

Pronunciation.

Example.

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| A—1. Long and broad, as in <i>war</i> ; | — <i>baṇ</i> , white. |
| 2. Long and slender, like <i>i</i> in <i>fine</i> ; | — <i>adapc</i> , horn. |
| 3. Short and broad, as in <i>war-rant</i> ; | — <i>mapc</i> , beef. |
| 4. Short and slender, as in <i>can</i> ; | — <i>brac</i> , a garment. |
| 5. Short and obscure, as in <i>funeral</i> ; | } <i>comapra</i> , neighbour. |
| 6. At the end of words, and before <i>o</i> , it has a peculiar sound, like <i>oo</i> in <i>cuckoo</i> ; | |
| E—1. Long, as in <i>there</i> ; | — <i>re</i> , the moon. |
| 2. Short, as in <i>egg</i> ; | — <i>rel</i> , strife. |
| 3. Short and obscure, like the feminine <i>e</i> in French poetry, or as in <i>broken</i> ; | — <i>rellce</i> , folded. |
| I—1. Long, as <i>ee</i> in <i>feel</i> ; | — <i>im</i> , butter. |
| 2. Short, as in <i>pin</i> ; | — <i>inir</i> , an island. |
| O—1. Long, as in <i>store</i> ; | — <i>mor</i> , great. |
| 2. Short, as <i>u</i> in <i>buck</i> ; | — <i>rcoc</i> , a trumpet. |
| U—1. Long, as in <i>rule</i> ; | — <i>cú</i> , a hound. |
| 2. Short, as in <i>put</i> ; | — <i>ucó</i> , the breast. |

It is to be observed of vowels—

1st. That there are no quiescent vowels at the end of words, as in English, *ex. done*. 2dly. That no vowels are ever doubled in the same syllable, as in *poor*. And 3dly. That there are never two distinct syllables made out of vowels following one another; but diphthongs and triphthongs always form one syllable, though the several vowels may be heard in the pronunciation.

The CONSONANTS are either immutable, as *l*, *n*, and *r*; or mutable, as *b*, *c*, *d*, *f*, *g*, *m*, *p*, *s*, and *t*; so called, because that, by placing over them a mark of aspiration, they either lose their primitive sound, or are altogether suppressed in pronunciation. The letters thus printed are said to be mortified, and the change thus expressed marks some of the most material inflections of the nouns and verbs. This is indeed a peculiarity in the Irish language, among European tongues, that requires the particular attention of the reader; who, if acquainted with the Hebrew, will perceive something analogous to it, in the effect which the dagesch point has upon some of the letters in that language. When the Irish is printed in the Roman letters, the effect of the point is expressed by the addition of an *h*. This greatly tends to confound learners, who, when taught the power of *h*, in Irish books printed in Roman character, will have to unlearn this, when they come to read English books in the same letter. Thus they will be told, that *th* (in Irish) is to be a mere aspirate; but, when they learn to read English, they find it must be strongly sounded; and, what adds to the confusion, very much in the same manner as they were told to pronounce the simple *t*, when learning to read the Irish. The point remedies this evil; and therefore Neilson, although he published his Grammar in Roman character, had dotted letters cast for his purpose.

We shall first treat of the mutables—*B*, *F*, *M*, and *P*, unaspirated, are pronounced as in English.

b is like either the English *w* or *v*; it is to be observed, that the difference of the broader or more slender sound of *b*, forms one provincial difference in the pronunciation of Irish. O'Brien's rules for the pronunciation of *b* are thus:—At the beginning of words, when followed by a slender vowel, and when it terminates a word, it is usually sounded *v*; but, in cases where it is connected with a broad vowel, he says “there is no certain standard;” neither does there seem to be any fixed rule for its pronunciation in the middle of words.

C is always as *K*.

c has a guttural sound, which has nothing analogous

to it in the English tongue, but is quite similar to that of the Greek χ , and Spanish X . There are two varieties of this sound; 1. At the beginning and end of words, when followed or succeeded by a broad vowel, or used in the middle of words in connection with one, it has a sound like gh in the word *lough*, strongly pressed out through the throat. 2. When thus connected with a slender vowel, its sound is only that of a very strong aspiration.

D has two sounds: 1. Like *d* in Italian, or *th* in *there*, but with a greater emphasis—the other like the *d* in French, more light and liquid, but similar to the former. It seems that the length of the following syllable influence the choice of sound.

δ is the Irish *Y*. If followed by a broad vowel at the beginning of a word, it has a pronunciation to which there is nothing similar in the English language; it is then guttural, and like the German *Y*, and may be expressed by a strong forcing of this letter. 2. In the beginning of a word, and before a slender vowel, or in the middle of a word followed by any vowel, it is simply

Y. And 3. whenever it is followed by a consonant, or terminates a word, it is either silent, or weakly aspirated. This letter at the end of a word, (not a monosyllable,) gives to the preceding vowel, if a broad one, a pronunciation like *oo*.

\ddot{f} becomes quiescent; it is never used but at the beginning of words, or as the initial of the second part of compounds.

G is always pronounced as in *gall*, never as in *gin*.

\ddot{z} is liable to the same rules as δ , only that at the end of words it is always silent.

\ddot{m} is liable to pretty much the same rules as *b*. Dr. O'Brien in his Dictionary, (remarks on *M*.) says, "that the vowel or vowels which precede *b* are pronounced with a stronger, clearer, and more open expiration than those which precede *m*"—we must allow for provincial varieties. O'Brien the Grammarian says, "that preceding a slender vowel in any part of a word, or terminating a word, *m* is *always* sounded as *v*." (*Grammar*.)

\ddot{p} , always as an *F*.

S, as in *son*, and also as *sh*. It is perhaps impossible to give any fixed rule for the use of these; but the latter pronunciation is most common, where *s* is preceded or followed by a slender vowel, or when it terminates a word.

t is always as an *h*.

T is always sounded as *th* in *thick*, but often somewhat thicker, as if it were preceded by a *d*. When aspirated it is pronounced as *h*.

The immutable consonants, *L*, *n*, and *r*, never suffer change from aspiration, or eclipse.

L, however, has two sounds, simple and liquid: the first as in the English word *leap*; the second like the last *l* in *million*.

N has also two sounds; 1st. Like *n* in *never*; the second like *n* in *news*.

R has likewise two sounds; the first like *r* in *road*; the second like *r* in *clarion*. The single *r* "is formed by slightly touching the sound of *ee*, before as well as after the *r*."—*Neilson*.

We come now to the consideration of compound letters, as I. Vowels, which are either 1, diphthongs, or 2, triphthongs; and II. Consonants, which are either 1, doubled, or 2, joined to others.

The diphthongs are 13 in number, and the triphthongs 5: of these the following diphthongs, and all the triphthongs, are always long; and in printing or writing them the accent may be omitted—

ae, ao, eu, ia, & ua; O'Reilly adds, eo & iu.

The examples are chiefly from O'Brien's Grammar, and Lynch—authorities relied on by O'Reilly.

Pronunciation.

Example.

1. ae, always long, as *ay* in *say*;—*ḡael*, Irish.
2. ai, long, as *aw*; —*cáin*, rumour.
short, as *e* in *err*; —*ḡaíinm*, I call.
3. ao, always long, as *ea* in *bear*;—*caom*, beautiful.
4. ea, long, as *a* in *care*; —*rméan*, a blackberry.
short, as *a* in *art*; —*ceant*, right.

<i>Pronunciation.</i>	<i>Example.</i>
ea short, as <i>e</i> in <i>leg</i> ;	—beaʒ, little.
obscure, like the feminine <i>e</i> in French poetry ;	—rɪŋeð, stretching out.
5. eɪ long, as in <i>feign</i> ;	—dæɪnc, alms.
short, as <i>e</i> in <i>egg</i> ;	—peɪc, sell.
6. eo long, as <i>eo</i> in <i>yeoman</i> ;	—ceðl, a song.
short, like <i>you</i> in <i>young</i> ;	—beoç, drink. <i>O'Brien</i> .

According to Halliday, there are but six instances in use, in which this short pronunciation is used.

7. eu always long, as *ay* in *mayor* ; —meur, a finger.
8. ɪa always long, as *ee* in *peer* ; —ʒɪʔan, the sun.
9. ɪo long, as *ee* in *keen* ; —rɪʔon, wine.
- short, as *i* in *kiss* ; —ɫor, a fort.
10. ɪv long, as *ew* in *few* ; —rɪú, worthy.
- short, as the French *eu* in *feu*, but shorter ; —ɾɫuc, rain.
11. oɪ long, and stress on *o*, as *oe* in *sloe* ; —cðɪɾ, just.
- long, and stress on *i*, as *i* in *mile* ; —coɟllce, woods.
- long, as *ee* in *bee* ; —cɾoʃðe, heart.
- short, as *ea* in *thread*, and not common ; —oɟðe, teacher.
12. vʌ always long, as *oo* in *poor* ; —ɾuʌɾ, cold.
13. uɪ, long, as two syllables ; pronounced as *soo-il* ; —ɾúɪl, the eye.
- long, as *uee* in *queen* ; —búɟðe, yellow.
- short, as *ui* in *quill* ; —ɾvɪl, the blood.

It is to be observed of these pronunciations that some of them are not common ; and others, as oɟ in coɟllce, are asserted to be provincialisms.

The five triphthongs all end in *i*, and are often used to express the genitives, and other inflexions, of words in which diphthongs occur.

1. ʌoɪ, like *ee* in *queen* ; —cʌoɪɾ, tender.
2. eoɪ, like two syllables, with the force on *o*, and the *i* short ; —ɾeoɪɾ, (*Owen*), *John*.

Pronunciation.

Example.

3. 141, as *ea* in *year*, with a kind of } 1411ceann, the pole
force on both i's. (*Neilson*.) } of the head.
4. 1v1, like the pronunciation of
ue in *fuel*, with the force
on *u*, and the latter i gently
sounded; —c1u1n, meek.
5. ua1, with a sound of all the
vowels; the *v* as *oo*, and the
force on it; the others very
quick, as *ōō—ă—ëe*; —ua1z, graves.

I. Consonants doubled are *cc*, *pp*, and *tt* ; they are used only at the beginning of words, and pronounced respectively as *g*, *b*, and *d*.

The double sound of *l* and *n* is formed, as Mr. Neilson well remarks, (p. 141,) “by placing the tongue to press on the upper fore-teeth and the gums, while the point is perceptible between the teeth—the only difference is, that the aspiration to *l* is guttural, and to *n* nasal.” The latter is like the *gn* in the French *Seigneur*.

The sound of *rr* is peculiar, and cannot be explained by writing. Mr. Lynch gave the writer the following rule—" *primum levigatum, secundum aspiratum.*"

II. Consonants joined together; these are of two kinds—1. such as influence each other in the manner called Eclipsis; 2. such as do not.

1. Eclipsis is of most important consideration in the study of the Irish language, as by it, and by the aspiration of initial letters, of which we have already treated, the inflexions of verbs and nouns are chiefly marked. It is when the leading consonant of any word is made to become entirely mute, or much altered in its sound, by having another consonant prefixed.

All the mutables, except *m*, are subject to eclipsis; the immutables cannot be eclipsed. And a consonant, to be eclipsed, must be followed by a vowel, by *l* or *r*, or by *s* before an *l*, *n*, or *r*.

Is to be pronounced

m	} eclipse	b	thus, <i>ap mbpon</i> , our sorrow ; — <i>ap mpon</i> .
g		c	— <i>ap zcuapre</i> , our visit ; — <i>ap zuapre</i> .
n		d	— <i>ap vðvl</i> , our desire ; — <i>ap vl</i> .
b		f	— <i>ap bfvl</i> , our blood ; — <i>ap buvl</i> .
n		g	— <i>ap vzuapre</i> , our danger ; — <i>ap vuapre</i> .
b		p	— <i>ap bpaipde</i> , our child ; — <i>ap baipde</i> .
t		s	— <i>an tplat</i> , the rod ; — <i>an tlat</i> .
d		t	— <i>ap dtipre</i> , our country ; — <i>ap dipre</i> .

It is to be particularly remembered, that the eclipsing letters are added to the commencement of each word ; so that, in looking in the Dictionary for these several terms, we shall find them there under the second letter : thus look for *zcuapre* under *C*. From this it is clear, that, although the eclipsed letter be omitted in pronunciation, it must not be so in writing ; no more than we can omit *k* in writing the word *knot*.

F is said by Vallancey to be eclipsed by *m*, *d*, and *t* ; but he confounds with eclipsing certain cases, in which the possessive pronouns *mo*, *do*, and *to*, for *do*, are united with the following noun : in such cases apostrophes should in propriety have been used, as *ð'feapz*, for *do feapz*, thine anger. There is a peculiarity in the eclipsing of *f* by a *b*, which is, that if it be followed by a broad vowel, the *b* becomes mutable and is sounded as *v* or *w* ; thus in the instance adduced of *bfuyl* pronounced *buyl*.

The pronunciation of *ng* is very peculiar, and not to be described by a strict analogy : it is to be uttered with a nasal catch, like *ng* in *longing*, but much stronger ; and never as if written thus, *fungus*.

S does not suffer eclipsis, except when followed by a vowel, or by *l*, *n*, or *r*, and preceded by the article *an*.—*O'Reilly*.

A list of cases in which eclipsis takes place, as well as those where aspiration occurs, shall be given hereafter ; and, note, the same circumstances which require eclipsis in consonants, require the use of *n* before vowels.—*O'Reilly*.

2. Consonants joined together in the same word, where eclipsis does not operate.

gn has a peculiar sound, rather nasal; and as if a very slender *e*, or the sheva, as in Hebrew, were pronounced between them.

ðl as ll, as cðlað, sleep—pronounced collað.

ln as ll, as colnα, flesh—collα.

ðη is pronounced as ηη, as cðηα, the same—cαηηα, with the peculiar pronunciation of ηη explained in p. 7.

In many cases the slight sound of *e*, of which we have spoken, is frequently heard between other consonants, when they occur united in the same word.

I must observe, that, in treating of pronunciation, I have advanced nothing but on the best admitted authorities.

Exercises, principally for the pronunciation of the aspirated, liquid, and double consonants; extracted literatim from Patrick Lynch's For-oirdear.

	Meaning.	Pronunciation.
α cōr,	his foot;	<i>a chuss.</i>
α b̄rαc,	his cover;	<i>a vrath.</i>
α ðun,	his fort;	<i>ayhoon.</i>
α m̄ar̄c,	his beef;	<i>avārth.</i>
α ʒor̄c,	his garden;	<i>ayhurth.</i>
α f̄ir̄,	O man!	<i>a irr!</i>
α p̄ðʒ,	his kiss;	<i>a foag.</i>
α f̄uyl,	his eye;	<i>a hoo-il.</i>
α ēj̄r,	his land;	<i>a hee-ir.</i>

LIQUIDS.

	Femin.	Pronunciation.
lam̄, hand;	α lam̄, her hand;	<i>all hauv.</i>
near̄c, force;	α near̄c, her force;	<i>ann yārth.</i>
r̄iʒ, a king;	α r̄iʒ, her king;	<i>arrhee.</i>

cc as ʒ, as αr̄ ccear̄c,	our right;	<i>ar gārth.</i>
pp as b, as αr̄ ppr̄ar̄n,	our need;	<i>ar brow-in.</i>
cc as d, as αr̄ cceir̄e,	our fire;	<i>ar dinne.</i>
ηʒ nasal, as αr̄ ηʒr̄ar̄n,	our hate;	<i>ar-ngraw-in.</i>

Practice of words, of more difficult or peculiar pronunciation, from the same.

	<i>Meaning.</i>	<i>Pronunciation.</i>
ადარც,	horn,	eye-arc.
აჯაიბ,	face,	eye.
ადრად,	adore,	eyeru.
ამარი,	river,	avvuin.
ადბარ,	cause,	awur.
ბოჯა,	a bow,	bow.
ბუიბეან,	property,	buee-an.
ცაბარი,	succour,	cowair.
ქაჯაილ,	to get,	fowill.
ქოლა,	covering,	fulläccha.
ჯაბა,	smith,	gow.
ჯუმუიქ,	fir-tree,	gee-ooish.
ლობარ,	leper,	llowar.
ოქრეამრად,	sitting,	errunach.
ქამარი,	fat,	rauwar.
ქამლუჯად,	pattern,	sawvlo.
ცაიბბრე,	apparition,	thoevshey.
ბაიბ,	stuttering,	balluv.
ცეაქ,	a sting,	kallag.
ბოიბ,	sorrow,	dolliv.
ქეარქ,	anger,	farrag.
ქეიბ,	possession,	shelliv.
ქეაქ,	mild,	shallug.
ბაიბეაძარაც,	thankful,	baechassach.
კოქმ-მეარუჯად,	comparison,	covvassoo.
ჯიქომ-ეაქტაც,	feat-performing,	gneeeoveäghtack.
ლაქეამუილ,	daily,	laehoo-il.

PART II.

WORDS, OR PARTS OF SPEECH.

I SHALL adopt Mr. O'Reilly's division of the parts of speech into ten, in preference to that of Mr. O'Brien, who does not separate the adjective from the noun; or that of Mr. Halliday, who omits the participle. They are the Article, Noun Substantive, Noun Adjective, Pronoun, Verb, Participle, Adverb, Conjunction, Preposition, and Interjection.

Of the ARTICLE.

There is but one Article, *an*, which signifies *the*: it has but one variation, *na*, which occurs in the genitive case singular of the feminine gender, and in all the cases of the plural—*n* is added in the genitive plural, when the noun commences with a vowel, or with the influenced letters, *o* or *z*; but the *n* in this case more properly belongs to the noun. It is thus declined—

<i>Singular.</i>	<i>Plural.</i>
<i>Nom.</i> the— <i>an</i>	<i>na</i> .
<i>Gen.</i> of the— <i>Masc. an, Fem. na, na</i> .	
<i>Dat.</i> to the— <i>an</i>	<i>na</i> .

In dative and ablative cases, when following the prepositions *to*, *for* *under*, *ua* and *o* *from*, and some others ending with vowels, *an* unites with the preposition, and the *a* is omitted—ex. *do'n*, *ra'n*, and *o'n*, for *do an*, *ua an*, and *o an*; but in such cases an apostrophe should properly be written or printed.

Of NOUNS SUBSTANTIVE.

To Nouns belong number, gender, case, and declension. There are but two numbers in Irish, singular and plural; but two genders, masculine and feminine; and six cases, the Nominative, Genitive, Dative, Accusative, Vocative, and Ablative.

Declension shows forth the changes which nouns undergo in their several varieties of number and case. There is nothing in which modern Irish Grammarians differ so much, and so materially, as in the declension of nouns : some of them, forgetting the great antiquity and eastern character of the language, have endeavoured to cramp it to the mould of European rules. A Grammarian should not, indeed, pass by the influence which these must naturally have upon the Irish tongue, through the use of it by persons who are in continual contact with others, whose language was constructed on a different principle ; but, according to the system of O'Brien, adopted by O'Reilly, and most others, we must look for the inflexions of nouns *chiefly* to the beginning of the words, while we must not neglect their terminations. Acting upon this principle, it matters not whether, with O'Brien, I make the number of declensions to be three ; or with O'Reilly, four ; as his first and second are but sub-divisions of O'Brien's first. O'Reilly's division is perhaps preferable : and I shall follow it, because it induces fewer exceptions to general rules.

Respecting the formation of the cases of regular nouns, I must premise, that the Nominative and Accusative, in both Substantives and Adjectives, are always the same ; so are the Dative and Ablative—I shall not, therefore, from henceforth, always notice the Accusative or Ablative cases, in speaking of the rules, or exhibiting the declensions, of either species of Nouns. The Vocative of masculine nouns is generally like the Nominative, and the Vocative of Feminine sometimes like the Nominative. The Nominative Plural is generally the same with the Genitive Singular ; and the Genitive Plural with the Nominative Singular. The first part of this rule will be found to agree with many other languages, for instance, in the Latin, *libri*, &c.

The first declension of Substantives is of Feminine Nouns, commencing with vowels ; the Genitive requires *h* to be prefixed ; so do all the other cases of the Plural, except the Genitive, which requires an *n* after the article.

*Example—oᵛᵗ, *a virgin.*

Sing.

Plur.

Nom. aᵇ oᵛᵗ, the virgin. *Nom.* ᵇa ᵇoᵗᵇ, the virgins.

Gen. ᵇa ᵇoᵛᵗᵇ, of the virgin. *Gen.* ᵇa ᵇoᵗᵇ, of the virgins.

Dat. ᵇo'ᵇ or ᵇo aᵇ oᵛᵗ, to the virgin. *Dat.* ᵇo ᵇa ᵇoᵗᵇᵇ, to the virgins.

2d Decl. Masculine Nouns beginning with vowels.

The nom. and accusative singular require *t* to be prefixed. The genitive singular does not require an *h*. The plural is as in the first declension.

*Example—ᵛᵗᵗᵗ, *a fish.*

Sing.

Plur.

Nom. aᵇ ᵗᵛᵗᵗᵗ, the fish. *Nom.* ᵇa ᵇᵗᵗᵗᵗᵗ, ᵇᵛᵗᵗᵗᵗᵗ, the fishes.

Gen. aᵇ ᵗᵗᵗᵗ.

Gen. ᵇa ᵇᵛᵗᵗᵗᵗ.

Dat. ᵇo'ᵇ, or ᵇo aᵇ ᵛᵗᵗᵗᵗ. *Dat.* ᵇo ᵇa ᵇᵛᵗᵗᵗᵗᵇ, ᵇᵛᵗᵗᵗᵗᵗ.

The gender, then, of a noun beginning with a vowel is easily ascertained in the singular number; for, if *t* be prefixed to the nominative or accusative, or *h* omitted from the genitive, it is masculine.

3d Decl. Feminine Nouns beginning with consonants.

In this declension the initial letter of gen. sing. never suffers variation, but all mutable consonants, (except *d*, *s*, and *t*,) if the article be used, must be aspirated in the other cases of the sing. In the plural there is no change, except in the gen. which must be eclipsed if commencing with a consonant that can suffer eclipse, unless it be an *s*. Some grammarians eclipse the dative; and O'Reilly, by his example, which is that used here, allows that it may be sometimes expressed by eclipse, sometimes by aspiration.

Example—colam, a dove.

Sing.

Plur.

Nom. aᵇ colam, the dove. *Nom.* ᵇa colamᵇ, or colamaᵇ.

Gen. ᵇa colamᵇ, or colamaᵇ. *Gen.* ᵇa ʒcolam.

Dat. ᵇo'ᵇ colam, ʒcolam, *Dat.* ᵇo ᵇa colamaᵇᵇ. colamᵇ.

* The addition of the article changes the meaning from *a* to *the*, from indefinite to definite.

If the noun begin with *s*, followed by a vowel, or by *l*, *n*, or *r*, it must be eclipsed instead of aspirated, by having *t* prefixed to all the cases of the sing. except the gen. and vocative.

Example—*ῥύιλ*, an eye
Nom. *αη ῥύιλ*, the eye.
Gen. *ηα ῥύιλ*.
Dat. *δο'η ῥύιλ*.

4th Decl. Masculine Nouns beginning with consonants.

In this, the initial letter of the gen. sing. if a mutable consonant must be aspirated, except it be an *s*, followed by a vowel, or by *l*, *n*, or *r*. The dative sing. must be aspirated or eclipsed. The gen. plur. must be eclipsed, and the vocatives aspirated. The other cases suffer no change.

Δ and *τ* sometimes afford an exception, as *Δία* God, gen. *Δε*.

Example—*κραῖ*, a tree.
Sing. *Plur.*
Nom. *αη κραῖ*, the tree. *Nom.* *ηα κραῖῃ*.
Gen. *αη ῥκραῖ*. *Gen.* *ηα ζκραῖ*.
Dat. *δο'η ζκραῖ* or *ῥκραῖ*. *Dat.* *δοηακραῖαῖ*—*κραῖα*.

Nouns of this declension, beginning with *s*, and followed by a vowel, or by *l*, *n*, or *r*, require *t* to be prefixed in the genitive, dative, and ablative singular.

Immutable consonants suffer no initial changes; but, if the nouns with which they commence be feminine, they are marked by a broader, or double, pronunciation after the article.

The inflexions of nouns are I. often connected with changes in the vowels contained in them; these become more attenuated than in the nom. cases, or the reverse: they also II. influence the terminations of nouns. Connected with the changes of the vowels, it will be necessary to make some observations on the genders of nouns; but I shall very much diminish the number of rules, with their exceptions, which are laid down by grammarians, as they are difficult, un-

certain, and perplexing; and present only a few of them, and such as are generally admitted to be correct.*

One test of genders is the use of the article in the gen. sing. If *as* agrees with the noun it is masculine, if *na*, feminine. The use of the aspirated gen. sing. and of the *t* or *h* prefixed, according to rules already laid down, are also tests. Most nouns whose last vowel is broad, or an *e* followed by a consonant, are masc. and those whose last vowel is slender, are fem. All proper names of men; and in general names of offices belonging to men, and nouns signifying males, are masculine; but names of women, and of offices peculiar to them, and nouns signifying females, are feminine.

The names of countries and rivers are feminine.

Diminutives ending in *ean* or *an* are masculine, and those ending in *o3*, *o3*, or *in*, are feminine.

Derivatives ending in *ac*, *ai3e*, *u3e*, *ai3e*, *ec*, *on*, or *eo3n*, and derivative or abstract nouns in *ar* or *er*, are masculine.

Those taking an increase, and ending in a slender vowel, are feminine, as *bva3ne*, perpetuity; and abstract nouns ending in *acc* or *o3o* are feminine.

Nouns compounded of two substantives are of the gender of the latter.

II. With respect to the inflexions of the terminations of nouns, the rules that are simple and most general are as follows—

1. The dative and abl. sing. generally terminate like the nom. sing. but the dative and ablative plural are formed by the addition of *ai3b*, if the last vowel of the nom. sing. be broad, and of *ib* if it be slender. Some nouns, however, that transpose their final consonant in the gen. sing. as *valac*, *a burden*, gen. *valca*, form the dat. and abl. plur. by making the addition to the gen. as *valcaib*: but in words of one syllable, they some-

* It is recommended to the learner not to incur himself with these rules, until he may have acquired some general knowledge of the language.

times end like the nom. plur. as *να ἄνδρες the men*, so *να ἄνδρες to the men*.

2. Regular masculine nouns ending in unaspirated consonants, seldom change their final letter: but, if the last vowel be broad, it is attenuated in the gen. by the insertion of *ι* after it, thus *βῆματ*, *a garment*, gen. *βήματι*; if of the feminine gender, they require, besides this attenuation, (where the last vowel is broad,) the addition *ε* to the gen. thus, *κοῖτα*, *a leg*, *κοίτης*.

3. Regular nouns ending in aspirated consonants, excepting *ς*, seldom vary their terminations in any cases, except the dat. plur.; but, if the nom. terminate in *ς*, the gen. sing. generally ends in *ος*: some nouns of one syllable, as *εἶς a horse*, *ἥρως a hero*, *σῆς*, *saffron*, retain *ς* in the gen. thus, *εἰς of a horse*, &c.

4. Words having *α* or *ο* for their last vowel, are often irregular in their attenuation; but the diphthong *εα* is generally changed into *ει* or *ι*, *εο* into *οι*, *ια* into *ει*, and *ιο* into *οι* in the masculine, and *ι* in the feminine, though with exceptions.

5. Nouns in *ις*, except derivatives in *οις*, usually have the gen. sing. *αις* or *αινα* in the masculine, and *αι*, *ας* or *αςα* in the feminine.

6. Nouns ending in vowels generally terminate all the cases of the sing. alike, but some take *να* or *ηνα* in the gen. sing.; many nouns ending in vowels make no final change in any case, but the dat. and abl. plural.

7. Substantives ending in *ισ*, or *ισς*, generally make their plurals in *αις*.

8. In masc. nouns the voc. terminates like the gen. excepting such as take a broad increase in the gen. Feminine nouns terminate their voc. like the nom.

I have taken much pains to condense from the best authorities, and to simplify the foregoing rules. They seem to admit of the fewest exceptions; and I think that it will sufficiently appear, from a consideration of them, and still more were the subject to be followed through the conflicting opinions of grammarians, that any attempt to regulate the inflexions of nouns, by

exclusive or principal attention to their final changes and attenuations, must lead to endless perplexity.

I shall present here the modes of declining the following nouns—*la a day*, *mí a month*, *cró a hovel*, *bó a cow*, *béa a woman*, and *cláñ children*. I omit many others that are irregular, but of less common use.

The following are taken from *O'Brien* and *O'Reilly*.

la a day, masc.

Sing.

Plur.

Nom. *la*..... *lae*, *laoi*.

Gen. *lae*, *laoi*..... *la*.

Dat. *la*, *lo*..... *lae*, *laoi*.

mí a month, masc. and fem.

Sing.

Plur.

Nom. *an mí*, or *mí*..... *na míora*.

Gen. *na míora*, or *an míora*..... *na mí*, or *míora*.

Dat. *do'n míra*, or *míra*..... *do na míora*.

cró a hovel, masc.

Sing.

Plur.

Nom. *an cró*..... *na craoi*, or *craoi*.

Gen. *an craoi*..... *na zcraoi*, or *cró*.

Dat. *do'n zcraoi*, or *craoi*, or *cró*. *do na craoi*, or *craoi*.

bó a cow, fem.

Sing.

Plur.

Nom. *an bó*..... *na ba*, or *baí*.

Gen. *na bó*, or *bó*..... *na mbó*.

Dat. *do'n bó*..... *do na baí*.

béa a woman, fem.

Sing.

Plur.

Nom. *an béa*..... *na mha*.

Gen. *na mha*..... *na ban* or *mban*.

Dat. *do'n mha*..... *do na mhaí*.

cláñ a tribe, or *children*, fem.

Sing.

Plur.

Nom. *cláñ*..... *na cláña*.

Gen. *na cláña*..... *na zcláña*.

Dat. *do'n zcláña*..... *do na cláñaí*.

Án is expressive of the diminution of a substantive, thus, *cnoc a hill*, *cnocán a hillock*. Some of these have inferior diminutions, as *cnoicín a very small hill*; which are formed by adding the *i* of the primitive gen. in the penultimate syllable, and changing the last *a* into *i*.

OF NOUNS ADJECTIVE.

Nouns Adjective abound in the Irish language, and to them its poetry owes much of its beauty and force: like substantives they suffer changes, both in their initials and terminations, which mark their relation to other words; and the same circumstances contribute to these changes, as cause similar variations in substantives.

The adjectives generally follow their substantive; and, when they precede them, they suffer no change in their termination: but, if they begin with vowels, they will require a *t* prefixed to the nom. sing. masc. *h* to the gen. sing. fem. and *n* to the gen. plural, when preceded by the article. They suffer no change in their terminations, when they end with vowels; and, when monosyllables are placed before a substantive, so as to form a compound with it, they are inflected as noun substantives are.

Adjectives following substantives generally suffer changes as follows—

I. With mutables for their initials, (except *d*, *s*, or *t*, following a noun ending with *n*,) they must be aspirated in the nom.* and voc. sing. of the fem. gender, and in the gen. dat. and voc. sing. of the masc. gender; likewise in the plural the gen. fem. must be aspirated.

II. Terminating in consonants, and having *l*. Their last vowel broad, they require in the masc. gender an *i* after them, or else to have the broad vowel changed to an *i* in the gen. sing.; but, if they be of the fem. gender, there must be added a small increase in the gen. sing. 2. If their last vowel be slender, there is

* Neilson adds the dative and ablative also; but O'Reilly prefers eclipsing them.

no change from the nom. in the gen. masc. but a small increase in the gen. fem.

3. According to some grammarians, all the cases of the plural, except the gen. take a broad increase, if the last be a broad vowel; and a slender increase, if the last vowel be slender.

Some few adjectives of one syllable, with their last vowel broad, take a broad increase in their gen. fem.; and some, as well as substantives, are so irregular, that they are not reducible to rule.

Two instances of adjectives, declined in the first three cases of both numbers, will suffice as examples here.

сггаñ ард, *a high tree*, masc.

Sing.

Plur.

Nom. аҥ сггаñ ард..... га сггаñ арда.

Gen. аҥ сггаñ ард..... га зггаñ ард.

Dat. до'н сггаñ ор зггаñ ард. до га сггаñ ард.

беаҥ ард, *a tall woman*, fem.

Nom. аҥ беаҥ ард..... га мга арда.

Gen. га мга ард..... га баҥ ард.

Dat. доҥ мга ард, or ард... до га мга ард, or ард.

DEGREES OF COMPARISON.

There are regularly but three; but in poetry the bards, as Mr. O'Brien remarks, "passed the ordinary bounds; and upon the superlative, which their heated imaginations made the positive degree, raised a second comparative and superlative;" and on this even a third of each of these.

The comparative now in common use is formed by adding *e* to the positive; and attenuating the last vowel, if it be broad. The superlative is the same as the comparative, with the addition of the particle *ар*. It is also expressed by the following particles added to the positive, which aspirate its initial letter, if it be a mutable consonant.

аҥ, гаҥ, нō.

Ἀφ' corrupted from ὅς ῥα or ὅς ἔτι, is often prefixed to the comparative: ῥό signifies *very*; and is rather a sign of eminent quality in a thing, than a degree of comparison; so also are ῥῖν, ῥν, and according to Mr. O'Reilly, ῥάν: ἄν is a particle of excess still more forcible.

The following adjectives are irregular in their comparison—(See O'Reilly, Lynch, &c.)

*Positive.**Comparative.*

μαῖτ, good	ῥεῖν, ῥεῖνδε.
ολκ, bad	μεῖρα, μῖρτε, μεῖρδε.
μόν, great	μό, μοῖδε.
βεῖ, little	λεῖ, λεῖδε.
ζεῖν, short	ζιῖν, ζιῖνδε.
ῥαδ, long	ῥαῖδε, ῥῖα, ῥαῖδε, ῥεῖδε.
ῥῖν, } easy	ῥῖα, ῥῖαδε, ῥῖα, ῥῖαδε.
ῥῖν, }	
τεῖ, hot	τεῖ, τεῖτε, τεῖδε.
δεῖ, good	δεῖ.
ροῖ, near	ροῖρε, ροῖρε.

Adjectives of place end in ἀς, added to the name of the place; thus, Σπαῖν *Spain*, Σπαῖνεας *Spanish*—also a Spaniard, or Spanish man.

Adjectives of numbers are as follows—(see Neilson, &c.)

*Cardinal.**Ordinal, as first, &c.*

1,	ἄς,	εἰς.
2,	δύ, or δύο,	δύ.
3,	τρί,	τρί.
4,	τετράς, or τετρε,	τετράς.
5,	πέντε,	πεντέ.
6,	ῥε,	ῥεῖ.
7,	ῥεῖτε,	ῥεῖτε.
8,	οὐκ,	οὐκ.
9,	ἑπτά,	ἑπτά.
10,	δέκα,	δέκα.

All that follow, up to twenty, are expressed by combinations of the foregoing, thus—

11,	աօղ ծեօյ,	աօղած ծեօյ.
20,	բիժե,	բիժեած.
21,	աօղ օյսր բիժե,	աօղած բիժեած.
22,	ծօ օյսր բիժե,	ծառա բիժեած.

Two more instances will exhibit the nature of these compounds, up to 1000.

30,	ձեյծ ար բիժեած,	ձեյծնցծ ար բիժեած.
31,	աօղ ծեօյ 7 բիժե,	աօղած ծցծ ար բիժեցծ.
100,	ճեօծ,	ճեօծ.
200,	ծա ճեօծ,	ծա ճեօծ.
1000,	միլե,	միլե.

There is an idiom in very common use, which is to call 7 great 6—

Ex. մօլի բիլլիլի, 7.

Persons are thus—աօղ, one person; ծիր or ծիրե, two persons; շրիս, three; and so on, ճշարար, ցոյցի, բիրքի, բաժար, օժար, յաօղար, ձեյծարար. Numbers over ten are thus expressed—աօղ-բջի-ծեւոյ, *eleven men*, &c. The influence of these numbers on aspiration shall be noticed hereafter.

The termination of a vowel before *ր* is therefore often indicative of person, and, added to a word, gives it that character; thus *մելտա*, *deceived*, *մելտար*, or *օլր*, *deceiver*.

The termination *աժտ* is, in general, the sign of a substantive formed from an adjective, somewhat similar to the termination *ness* in English, thus, *բարամիլ* *manly*, *բարամիլաժտ* *manliness*. When the primitive adjective ends in *տա*, the substantive is formed by the addition of *ր*, thus, *մաքառտա*, *honest*, *մաքառտար*, *honesty*.

The following example will serve to exhibit some of the combinations usual, in the formation of derivative words, in the Irish language; but I do not conceive it necessary to enlarge upon this subject here.

մելտա *deceived*, is the part. past of the verb *to deceive*.
մելտար *a deceiver*, *մելտարցժտ* *deceit*.
մելտան *a low deceiver*, *մելտանար* *low deceit*.

There is a general rule in the composition of words, which is much quarrelled with by many grammarians, as having somewhat injured the language by the strictness with which it has been adhered to. It will be found to have been very generally adopted. It is technically called *leatān pe leatān, 7 caol pe caol*; or *broad with broad, and slender with slender*: and it makes it necessary, “*that the vowel which goes before a consonant, must be of the same class with the vowel which follows that consonant*; i. e. *both broad, or both slender*. Hence we have *feall treason*, and *fealtair a traitor*; but from *caire speech*, we cannot by this rule have *caireair*, so that this termination must be thus, *caireoir*.”—(See O'Reilly's Preface to his Dictionary, c. II. Neilson and O'Brien.)

OF PRONOUNS.

Pronouns are of six kinds—Personal, Possessive, Relative, Demonstrative, Interrogative, and Indefinite.

The personal pronouns are—*me I, tu thou or you, e or re he, i or si she*. They are thus declined—

me, I.

Sing.

Plur.

Nom. *me I*..... *riū we*.

Gen. *mo mine, or belonging* *air our, or of us.*
to me.

Dat. *da'm on do'm, for do dūiū, for do iū, to us.*
me, to me.

Acc. *me me*..... *iū or riū us.*

Ab. *va'm, for vaō me, from ua'iū, for vaō iū, from us.*
me.

tu, thou.

Nom. *tu thou*..... *iū or riū ye.*

Gen. *do thine, or of or be- dair or buir, your, or of you.*
longing to thee.

Dat. *du'ic, for doct, to thee. d'iū, for do iū, to ye.*

Acc. *tu thou*..... *iū or riū, ye.*

Voc. *tura O thou*..... *iū re O ye!*

Ab. *ua'iū or va'ic, for va'iū, for uaō iū, from ye.*
uaō tu, from thee.

re he, and rī she.

Sing.

Plur.

Nom. re he, and rī she.... ɪaɔ or ɪɪaɔ they.

Gen. a his, belonging to a their, or of them.
him; hers, or be-
longing to her; its.

Dat. do to him; d'ī, for doɪb to them.
do ī, to her.

Acc. e him, it; ī her..... ɪaɔ them.

Ab. uaɔ from him; vaɪ'b uaɔtɔ, from them.
& uaɔtɪ, for uaɔ ī,
from her.

The possessives are, mo mine, do thine, or your, and a his, hers, its, or theirs. These are only the genitives of the personal pronouns.

There is an emphatic form belonging to both personal and possessive pronouns—thus, me is *I*; but the addition of re thus, mīre, creates the emphatic meaning, *I myself*.

This addition is of re or ɪre in the 1st person, ɾa or ɾe in the 2d, and ɾī, ɾīn, or ɾan, in the 3d person sing. e in the 1st person, ɾe in the 2d, and ɾan in the 3d person plural.

Example.

mīre myself.

ɾura thyself, duɪre to thyself.

ɾērīn or ēren, himself, ɾɾī or ɾɾī herself; do ɾan to himself.

ɾonne or ɾinne ourselves.

ɾībre yourselves, dībre to yourselves.

ɾiabrān or ɾabrān themselves, doɪbreɳ to themselves.

The emphatic increase, when added to a possessive pronoun, is generally put to the noun that follows it, thus, mo laɳ ɾa *my hand*; but an hyphen should properly be used, thus, mo laɳ-ɾa. The increase to possessives is ɾa in the sing. and 2d person plural; ɳe in the 1st, and ɾan in the 3d person plural.

ſe1ŋ is a word expressive of *self* or *own*, and is used with possessive pronouns in like manner, *e. g.* mo laŋ ſe1ŋ, *mine own hand*.

ſvm or ſ1vm occur in some manuscripts, subjoined in the emphatic form to ſe.

Personal and possessive pronouns are often compounded with prepositions, so as to appear but one word. The learner should become well acquainted with these, as they are almost always used in combination, and without any apostrophe, or other mark, to note their being so compounded.

The letters Δ, 1, τ, ē, or p, are often introduced to connect the words; the latter, however, only in the 3d person.

Three examples of this mode of combination will serve to illustrate these subjects here.

Example—Δ5 with.

Δ5—me.....	Δ5Δm	with me.
— τv	Δ5Δδ	— thee.
— e	Δ15e	— him.
— 1	Δ1C1	— her.
— 1ñ	Δ5u1ñ	— us.
— 1b	Δ5Δ1b	— ye.
— Δ	Δca	— them.

τ1j through.

τ1j—me.....	τ1jm	through me.
— τu.....	τ1jē	— thee.
— e.....	τ1jδ	— him.
— 1.....	τ1jē1	— her.
— 1ñ	τ1jñ	— us.
— 1b	τ1jb	— ye.
— Δ.....	τ1jotΔ	— them.

δo to.

δo—mo.....	δom	to my.
— δo.....	δod	— thy.
— Δ.....	δ'Δ	— his or her.
— Δ1.....	δΔ1	— our.
— Δ	δ'Δ	— their.

In possessive pronouns the third person singular, and second and third plural, do not unite with the preposition; and in the third persons singular and plural they require an *η* to be prefixed, thus—

*η*ο *η*'α, under his, her, or their.

The emphatic increase of the personal compounds is, as in the case of the primitives, thus, *αζαμτα* *with myself*; but the possessive compounds require that the increase should follow the noun with which they are connected, thus, *ηεμ λαμτα* *with mine own hand*.

The four other kinds of pronouns are indeclinable.

The relative pronouns are α, *who, which, that, all that, whatever*; and ηοc, ηοcα, *who, which*: they are indeclinable.

The demonstrative pronouns are *η*ο, *this, these, here*; *η*η, *that, those, there*; *η*υδ and υδ, *that, those, there, or you*.

Interrogative pronouns are *ε*ηα, *ce, ε*η, *who, which*; *ε*ηδ, *ε*ηεδ, *ε*αδ, *what*; *ε*α, *what, where*.

These interrogatives combined with adverbs, make the following words which are in very common use—

<i>ε</i> αηοη, when,	or <i>ε</i> α, or <i>ε</i> αηα,	what time?
<i>ε</i> αηδε, wherefore,	or <i>ε</i> α ηαδ,	what cause?
<i>ε</i> ααη, whence,	or <i>ε</i> α αη,	what from?
<i>ε</i> αηε, when,	or <i>ε</i> α αηε,	what place?
<i>ε</i> αηδα, how long,	or <i>ε</i> α ηαδα,	what long?
<i>ε</i> ηηαη, how,	or <i>ε</i> α ηο,	what mode?
<i>ε</i> ηηαδ where,	or <i>ε</i> α ηηηαδ,	what place?
<i>ε</i> ηεαδ, what,	or <i>ε</i> α ηαοδ,	what thing?

O'Brien mentions *η*αδ, *ε*αδ, *η*υδ, *ε*α, *ce, η*α, and *η*ε, as interrogative adverbials that are indiscriminately used.

Indefinite pronouns are *α*η *τε, α*η *ε*η, *he, or the person who, or that*; *ε*αc, *η*αc, *all, every*; *ε*αηδ, *ε*ηηηη, *some*; *α*ηε, *ε*ηε, *ο*ηε, *other*; *α*ηε, *α*ηε, *any one*; *ε*ε *be, ε*ηδ *be, η*ηδ *be, whosoever, whatsoever, which are contractions of ε*ηα and *βαδ, or βυδ, was, or were*.

Of VERBS and PARTICIPLES.

Verbs are of four kinds, Active, Passive, Impersonal and Neuter—the latter have no passive voice, the impersonals have a passive termination.

All regular verbs have 1. two voices, Active and Passive.

2. Six moods, Imperative, Indicative, Potential, Conditional, Consuetudinal, and Infinitive.

3. Three Tenses, Present, Past, and Future; these tenses have each of them a relative form, governed by a relative pronoun, expressed or understood.

4. Two Numbers, Singular and Plural.

5. Three Persons; and

6. Three Participles, Present, Past, and Future.

Mr. O'Reilly and others very properly make but one conjugation, for the final Vowel being broad or long makes no difference in regard to the general rules of inflection.

Verbs as well as Pronouns have an emphatic form, thus—*caim*, *I am*, *caimre*, *I myself am*.

The second person singular imperative mood is the root of the Verb; but it appears in dictionaries under the first person singular indicative mood, and present tense.

The Consuetudinal Mood is denied by some grammarians, but I adopt it on the authority of O'Reilly, Lynch, Halliday, and others; and it will be clear to any reader of Neilson, that he should have made it a mood, and not a tense, as he makes it to be sometimes past, sometimes future.

The inflections of Verbs are very much distinguished by initial changes, which appear in the example, and shall also be presented in one view hereafter.

The following general rules respecting final changes are borrowed from O'Brien.

1. No Verb can grammatically end in *m* or *y* in the plural, or *o* in the singular.

2. The first person singular indicative mood, pre-

sent tense, is always formed by adding Δm or μm to the root.

3. The letter \mathfrak{r} should never be omitted in the future tense of any verb, except the Auxiliary; thus, $\mathfrak{m}eall$ *deceive thou*, $\mathfrak{m}eall\mathfrak{r}\Delta\delta$ *I will deceive*. This letter is also always used in the potential and conditional moods.

4. Active Verbs in the consuetudinal mood, change the final m of the first person singular, indicative mood, present tense, into \bar{n} , if the pronoun accompany it; but that mood in passive verbs is formed by adding \mathfrak{r} to their participles.

5. When a relative is either written or understood, all the persons of the indicative present end in $\Delta\mathfrak{r}$ or $e\Delta\mathfrak{r}$; but the past tense ends like the root of the verb.

The preceding rules are such as are most generally acknowledged and important—the student will learn others best, from the example of a regularly conjugated verb.

It is to be observed, that grammarians give two conjugations of a regular verb, the antient and the modern—the first is more common in books, the latter in conversation; and it does appear to be a bending of the oral language to the necessity of assimilation with modern tongues, by the more frequent use of auxiliary verbs and separate particles, in order to express the various inflections. I conceive it to be necessary to exhibit them both; but it will in the first place be proper to present the conjugation of the auxiliary, *to be*, &c.

AUXILIARY VERB.

The several modifications of the verb *to be* are drawn from five sources— $\Delta\mathfrak{r}$ or \mathfrak{r} *it is*; $\tau\Delta$, *is, it is*; $\mathfrak{r}\mu\mathfrak{l}$ *is, it is*; $\mathfrak{r}\Delta\mathfrak{l}\bar{b}$ *was*; and $b\mathfrak{l}$ or $b\mathfrak{l}\bar{b}$ *it is*.

1. $\mathfrak{A}\mathfrak{r}$ or \mathfrak{r} is only used in two tenses of the indicative mood, as \mathfrak{r} *me I am*, or *it is I*; \mathfrak{r} *tu*, &c. and $b\Delta$ or $b\bar{b}$ *me I was*, or *it was I*; and so on with the pronouns of the several persons.

This auxiliary is frequently used with a repetition of itself, or of *եա*, thus, *յի թ յի Լայծիր it is he that is strong*; *յի մե եա Լայծիր it is I that am strong*. The English learner will here recognise a common Hibernicism, which is a literal translation of the Irish idiom. It is always used in assertion.

2. *Էա* is used only in the present indicative, and as a positive affirmative, instead of the present indicative of *բի*: *ա* is very frequently, but improperly, affixed to it, as *աեալմ I am*.

Indicative present—modern mode.

եա *մե*, or *աեա մե I am*; and so with the several personal pronouns.

Antient mode.

<i>Sing.</i>	<i>Plur.</i>
<i>եալմ, or աեալմ.</i>	<i>եամար, եամաօյծ, or աեամար, &c.</i>
<i>եալր, եաօլր, or աեալր, &c.</i>	<i>եածար, եաեալ, եաեաօլ, or աեածար, &c.</i>
<i>եա, or աեա.</i>	<i>եայծ, or աեայծ.</i>

3. *Եբլլ, or բլլ, is, it is.*

Modern mode.

Եբլլմ, or բլլմ, and Եբլլ, or բլլ մե I am; *Եբլլ, or բլլ ես thou art*; and so through the several persons.

Antient mode.

<i>Եբլլմ, I am.</i>	<i>Եբլլմար, or Եբլլմծ.</i>
<i>Եբլլր.</i>	<i>Եբլլծար, or Եբլլեծ.</i>
<i>Եբլլ բե.</i>	<i>Եբլլծ.</i>

Also, *բլլմ, բլլր ես, &c.*

Negative present, (from *O'Reilly and Neilson*.)

<i>ոյ Եբլլմ, ոյել մե, or ոյ'լ մե I am not.</i>	<i>ոյ Եբլլմծ, Եբլլ բլլ, ոյելմծ, or ոյ'լմծ.</i>
<i>ոյ Եբլլր, ոյել, or ոյ'լ ես.</i>	<i>ոյ Եբլլե, Եբլլ բլլ, ոյել, or ոյ'լ բլլ.</i>
<i>ոյ Եբլլ բե, ոյել, or ոյ'լ բե.</i>	<i>ոյ Եբլլ, ոյել, or ոյ'լ բլլ.</i>

Interrogative, of which *ա* or *այ* prefixed is the sign.

Sing.

Plur.

<i>ա</i> or <i>այ</i> <i>ծըրկեմ, or ծըսլ</i>	<i>ծըսլմասօր, ծըսլեամ, or</i>
<i>me, am I?</i>	<i>ծըսլ ըն?</i>
<i>ծըսլիր, or ծըսլ Ես?</i>	<i>ծըսլ ըն?</i>
<i>ծըսլ ըն?</i>	<i>ծըսլի՞ծ, or ծըսլ ըսած?</i>

4. *նայեմ was*, of which there is but one tense, to wit, the past. Mr. O'Reilly says, that it is a contraction from *նո ի*.

Modern mode.

նայեմ եմ I was, or was I? and so through the persons.

<i>նայեմ, I was.</i>	<i>նայեմար.</i>
<i>նայեմ.</i>	<i>նայեմար.</i>
<i>նայեմ.</i>	<i>նայեմար.</i>

5. *եմ or եմ ի is.*

<i>եմ, եմ եմ thou.</i>	<i>եմ ըն, եմ ըր, եմ մասօր.</i>
<i>եմ, or եմ ըն.</i>	<i>եմ ըն, եմ ըն,</i>
	<i>եմ ըսած, եմ, եմ ըր, եմ ըն.</i>

Indicative—Present Tense.

<i>եմ ըմ I be, or exist.</i>	<i>եմ ըն ըն, եմ մար, եմ-</i>
<i>եմ ըն Ես, եմ ըն.</i>	<i>մասօր.</i>
<i>եմ ըն ըն.</i>	<i>եմ ըն ըն, եմ մար.</i>
	<i>եմ ըն ըսած, եմ ըն.</i>

Past Tense.

This tense always requires the aspiration of the initial, if a mutable consonant.

<i>եմ, եմ, եմ եմ, or եմ ըն,</i>	<i>եմ, or եմ ըն, եմ մար, եմ-</i>
<i>եմ, եմ, եմ Ես, or եմ ըն,</i>	<i>եմ, or եմ ըն, եմ մար, եմ.</i>
<i>եմ, եմ, or եմ ըն.</i>	<i>եմ, or եմ ըն, եմ մար, եմ.</i>
	<i>եմ, or եմ ըն, եմ մար, եմ.</i>

Future.

<i>Sing.</i>	<i>Plur.</i>
beյծ մե, beյծ, bյած.	beյծ քո, beյծմար, beյծմլծ,
beյծ Ես, beյծիր.	beյծ, bյծոյնք.
beյծ, ըս beյծ քե.	beյծ քի՛ն, beյծծար, bյածալծ.
	beյծ քած, beյծլծ, bյածալծ.

Relative bյա՛ր or իր մե bյա՛ր.

Potential mood—this mood always requires the aspiration of the initial.

beյծոյ, or beյծքոյ, <i>I would be.</i>	beյծ քի՛ն, beյծմիր.
beյծեաճ.	beյծ քի՛ն.
beյծ քե.	beյծ քի՛ն, beյծծիր.

*Conditional mood—Present Tense

մա bյիմ, bյծոյ, or bյծոյ մե	մա bյոյմ, bյմալծ, or bյծոյ
<i>If I be.</i>	քի՛ն.
մա bյծիր, or bյծոյ Ես.	մա bյծոյ քի՛ն.
մա bյոյ, or bյծոյ քե.	մա bյծոյ քի՛ն.

Past Tense.

ծա մbeյծոյ, or մbeյծ մե	ծա մbeյծմալծ, or մbeյծ
<i>If I were.</i>	քի՛ն.
ծա մbeյծցծ, or մbeյծ Ես.	ծա մbeյծծլ, or մbeյծ քի՛ն.
ծա մbeյծ, or մbeյծ քե.	ծա մbeյծլ, or մbeյծ քի՛ն.

Future Tense.

մա bյոյմ <i>If I shall be,</i>	մա bյոյմալծ, or bյոյ քի՛ն.
մա bյոյ Ես.	մա bյոյ քի՛ն.
մա bյոյ քե.	մա bյոյ քի՛ն.

Consuetudinal mood—Present Tense.

bյիմ, bեյծիմ, or bյծոյ մե	bյմալծ, bյա՛ն քո, or bյծքո.
<i>I am usually.</i>	bյլծ, or bյա՛ն քի՛ն.
bյծիր, bյա՛ն Ես, or bյծց Ես.	bյծլծ, bյծ, or bյա՛ն քի՛ն.
bյ, bյա՛ն քե, or beծեա քե,	
or bյոյ. (<i>Lynch.</i>)	

Relative beյծեա՛ր, bյի, bյծեա *that usually is.*

Interrogative, ա քի՛ն ?

* As it is impossible to reconcile the grammarians in the detail of this mood, I shall copy Mr. O'Reilly.

Past Tense.

do b ḡ <i>I was usually.</i>	do b m ḡ, or b m a o ḡ.
do b ḡa.	do b ḡ ḡ.
do b ḡe a ḡ.	do b ḡ ḡ.

No future.

Infinitive mood and participles.

do, or a be ḡ <i>to be.</i>	be ḡ <i>being,</i>
ḡaḡ mbe ḡ <i>having been.</i>	aḡ ḡ be ḡ <i>about to be.</i>

The interrogative is aḡ, and it is often used without the verb, the latter being understood, as aḡ me? *is it I?* aḡ tu? *is it thou?* &c. This interrogative particle, used before consonants which can be eclipsed, causes eclipse, and then the ḡ is generally omitted, as a ḡb|ḡ|ḡ tu? *do you be?* and often the particle is dropped thus—ḡb|ḡ|ḡ tu?

The negatives of this verb are ḡa in the imperative, and ḡi in the other moods.

Note, that the tenses of the potential mood may be formed, by prefixing aḡ or ḡḡ for the present, ba for the past, and buḡ for the future tense, to such words as cō|ḡ *right*, e|ḡ|ḡ *necessity*, ḡe|ḡ|ḡ *power*, &c.; followed by the pronoun, which is properly the nominative to the verb, and the verb itself in the infinitive mood; thus—ba cō|ḡ ḡaḡ (or do me,) a be|ḡ *I should have been*; literally, *it is right for me to have been*, or *be*. They are also formed by placing ḡ|ḡ|ḡ *I come* or *agree*, used impersonally; or ca|ḡ|ḡ *must*, or *it obliges*, in like manner before the pronoun and verb, thus—ḡi ḡ|ḡ|ḡ ḡom, (or le me,) a be|ḡ *I cannot be*. This idiomatic form of expression is very common, and must be carefully recollected and applied.

VERBS ARE REGULAR AND IRREGULAR.

The following example of the conjugation of a regular verb is taken from O'Brien, corrected by O'Reilly, and approved by Scurry, &c. It will be unnecessary to exhibit the English, except as in the manner already adopted.

meall deceive, active voice.

Imperative Mood—Modern mode.

Sing.

Plur.

meall deceive thou.

meallað þe let him deceive.

meallað þū.

meallað þið.

meallað þið.

Antient mode.

meall.

meallað.

*meallam, meallamaoþ,**

meallamaþr.

meallaþe.

meallaþiþr, meallaþ.

Indicative Present Tense—Mod. mode.

meallaþm I deceive, meallaþ þu, &c.

Antient mode.

meallaþm.

meallaþr.

meallaþre.

meallamaþr, meallamaoþ.

meallaþar, meallaþoþ.

meallaþ.

Past Tense—Modern mode.

In this tense, and in the potential mood, the particle *þo* is generally expressed before the verb; and always so if the initial letter be *þ*, or a vowel.

meall me I deceived, meall þu, &c.

Antient mode.

meallaþr.

meallaþr.

meall.

meallamaþr, meallam.

meallaþar.

meallaþar, meallaþ.

Future Tense—Modern mode.

meallaþað me I will deceive, meallaþað þu, &c.

Antient mode.

meallaþað.

meallaþar.

meallaþað.

meallaþam, meallaþamar,

meallaþamaoþ.

meallaþabar, meallaþaðe.

meallaþað.

* This termination would be thus in *ceþl conceal*, *ceþlmþ*, because that the last vowel in the root of the verb is slender; so in some other inflections; but I do not consider it necessary to notice them further than by this general remark.

Potential Mood—Modern mode.

meallfaſñ, *I would deceive*, meallfað tu, &c.,

Antient mode.

meallfaſñ.

meallfaðmaoſſr.

meallfað.

meallfaſðe.

meallfað re,

meallfaſðſſr.

Conditional Mood; eclipse the initial letter, if it be one capable of it.

ða meallfaſñ *if I would deceive*, &c. as in the Potential Mood.

Consuetudinal Mood—Present Tense.

Same in both modes.

męllaſm, or męllañ me *I usually deceive*, męllañ tu, &c.

Past Tense.

meallam *I used to deceive*.

meallamaoſſr.

meallta.

meallaoſðe.

meallað.

mealladaoſſr.

Infinitive Mood and Participles.

The same in modern and ancient modes.

ðo, or a mealað *to deceive*.

Present. aſ mealað *deceiving*.

Past. ſaſ mealað *having deceived*.

Future. aſ tſ mealað *about to deceive*.

The initials of the infinitive mood and the past participles are always aspirated; but the latter may also be eclipsed, instead of aspirated.

The relatives are meallar *that deceives*; meall *that deceived*; meallfaſ *that will deceive*; meallað *that used to deceive*. (See General Rule 5.)

Passive Voice.

This voice is conjugated in the modern mode, by prefixing the auxiliary verb to the participle, thus—bſð me meallta *I am deceived*; and so throughout. It is therefore expedient to confine the conjugation here to the antient mode.

Imperative Mood.

mealltaſ *be deceived*.

mealltaſ me *let me be deceived*, mealltaſ tu, and so through the persons.

Indicative Present Tense.

<i>Sing.</i>	<i>Plur</i>
ταῖς μελλτα, μελλταρ με <i>I am deceived.</i>	ταμαρ μεαλτα, μεαλταρ ιν.
ταρ μελλτα, μελλταρ ε.	ταβερ μελλτα, μελλταρ ιβ.
τα ρε μελλτα, μελλταρ ε.	ταιδ μεαλτα, μεαλταρ ιδ.

Past Tense.

μεαλιδ με *I was deceived, &c.*

Future Tense.

μεαλφιδαρ or μεαλφαρ με *I will be deceived, &c.*

Potential Mood.

μεαλφιδε με *I would be deceived, &c.*

Conditional Mood.

δα μεαλφιδε με *if I would be deceived, &c.*

Consuetudinal Mood—Present Tense.

μεαλταρ με *I am usually deceived, and so through the persons.*

Past Tense.

μεαλταοιδε με *I used to be deceived, &c.*

Infinitive Mood and Participles.

δο or α βειτ μεαλτα *to be deceived.*

Present. μεαλτα *deceived.*

Past. ιαρ ηα βειτ μεαλτα *having been deceived.*

Future. αρ τι βειτ μεαλτα *about to be deceived.*

The negative and interrogative particles are the same in both voices. The negative particle of the present and future tenses indicative is ηι, and of the past tense, ηιη, ηιαρ, or ηιορ; in the imperative mood it is ηα. The interrogative of the indicative present and future is α, αν, or ηα; and of the past tense αρ, ηααρ, or ηαρ. The influences of these particles on aspiration shall be noticed hereafter.

The following particles are signs of the potential mood—ծա, Դա *if*, ցօ *until*, ար *unless*. ցօ and ար, followed by Բս or Բա, form the optative sign; as ցօ, or ար Բա, or Բիծ, Դեմա Ելծի *may you be deceived*.

Affirmative particles are ար *as*; ար, ցօ, Եօ *that*; Ե *who*—Եօ and Ե are also signs of the infinitive mood.

Impersonal verbs have passive terminations in the several moods and tenses, thus—

Imperative Mood.

Լսածար, *let it be reported.*

Indic. Pres. Լսածար *it is reported.*

Past. Լսած *it was reported.*

Fut. Լսօքար *it will be reported.*

Potential Mood.

Լսօքայօ, *it would be reported.*

Consuetudinal Mood.

Լսօճաօյօ *it is usually reported.*

I shall present here an abstract of the conjugation of a reflected verb from Neilson, as it exhibits much of the peculiar idiom of the language—it partakes of the character of neuter, and is incapable of being inflected in the passive voice.

Եծալ *sleep.*

Imperative Mood.

Sing.

Եծալ, Բի Եօ Եօլս *sleep*
thou.

Եծլսօք, Բի Դե Դա Եծլս *let him sleep.*

Plur.

Եծլսմաօյօ, Բլմյօ Դար.
ցօծլս.

Եծլսօք, Բի ԴԵ Դար ցօծլս.

Եծլս Դլս, Բլս Դլս Դա
ցօծլս.

The Infinitive Mood and participles are not peculiar.

Indicative Mood—Present Tense.

1. *Sing.* codla|m, ta me mo còdlað *I sleep.*
2. ——— codla|n tu, ta tu do còdlað.
3. ——— codla|n re, ta re (or rì) na còdlað.
1. *Plur.* codlamao|b, tamao|b nap zcodlað.
2. ——— codla|n rìb; ta rìb bun zcodlað.
3. ——— codla|n rìab, ta rìab na zcodlað.

In a similar manner are the past and future tenses of this mood, and the other moods, &c. conjugated; combining the proper mood and tense of the auxiliary verb, and the proper pronoun, with the infinitive mood, to express each mood, tense, and person of the reflected verb.

IRREGULAR VERBS.

The irregular verbs form the principal difficulty in the Irish language. It might naturally be expected that this tongue should have suffered much from license in its general use: it has been now, for centuries, the medium of intercourse among the most illiterate people of the country, people living in places the most remote from each other; and has not had the advantages of a college, a theatre, a court, or a capital—not even those of an acknowledged grammar, or, until lately, a dictionary—where its standard might be supposed to be found. It is therefore more surprising that there should be so little contradiction between its several dialects, or of wild offspring from its genuine but uncultivated roots, than that there should be a difficulty in subjecting it to the rules of grammar. In treating of these verbs I shall not exhibit all their inflections, but merely present, from the best authorities, such parts of them as are most irregular; leaving the thorough understanding of them to be acquired by that which alone can teach them well—PRACTICE.

I.—*dēan do, or make.*

Indicative Mood, Past Tense.

<i>Sing.</i>		<i>Plur.</i>	
Mod. mode.	Antient.	Mod. mode.	Antient.
𐌸𐌹𐌺 <i>me I did do.</i>	𐌸𐌹𐌺𐌰𐌹𐌺.	𐌸𐌹𐌺 𐌸𐌹𐌺.	𐌸𐌹𐌺𐌰𐌹𐌺𐌰𐌹.
𐌸𐌹𐌺 <i>tu.</i>	𐌸𐌹𐌺𐌹𐌺.	𐌸𐌹𐌺 𐌸𐌹𐌺.	𐌸𐌹𐌺𐌰𐌹𐌺𐌰𐌹.
𐌸𐌹𐌺 <i>re.</i>	𐌸𐌹𐌺𐌹𐌺.	𐌸𐌹𐌺 𐌸𐌹𐌺𐌰𐌹.	𐌸𐌹𐌺𐌰𐌹𐌺𐌰𐌹.

This Tense is also thus—

𐌸𐌹𐌺 *dēin me, or 𐌸𐌹𐌺𐌰𐌹𐌺, I did do, &c.*

Passive Voice—Imperative Mood.

Modern mode.

𐌸𐌹𐌺 𐌸𐌹𐌺 <i>be thou done.</i>	𐌸𐌹𐌺 𐌸𐌹𐌺 𐌸𐌹𐌺.
𐌸𐌹𐌺 <i>re 𐌸𐌹𐌺.</i>	𐌸𐌹𐌺 𐌸𐌹𐌺 𐌸𐌹𐌺.
	𐌸𐌹𐌺 𐌸𐌹𐌺𐌰𐌹𐌺.

Also, 𐌸𐌹𐌺 *dēan̄ta and dēan̄ta𐌹 tu be thou done, &c.*

Infinitive Mood and Participle.

𐌸𐌹𐌺 *or a bein̄t dēan̄ta or 𐌸𐌹𐌺 to be done.*

dēan̄ta, or 𐌸𐌹𐌺 done, or made.

Indicative Mood—Present Tense.

Is conjugated with either *dēan̄ta*, or *𐌸𐌹𐌺*—as *ta me* or *ta𐌹m dēan̄ta*, or *𐌸𐌹𐌺 I am done, &c.*

Past Tense.

𐌸𐌹𐌺𐌰𐌹𐌺 *me I was done, &c.* Also, 𐌸𐌹𐌺 *me dēan̄ta, &c.*

Conditional Mood.

𐌸𐌹𐌺 m̄bēin̄t dēan̄ta, or *𐌸𐌹𐌺*, and so through the several persons.

2.—*𐌸𐌹𐌺𐌰𐌹𐌺 or 𐌸𐌹𐌺 I do or make.*

Indicative Mood—Present Tense.

𐌸𐌹𐌺𐌰𐌹𐌺, or 𐌸𐌹𐌺.	𐌸𐌹𐌺 𐌸𐌹𐌺, 𐌸𐌹𐌺𐌰𐌹𐌺, or 𐌸𐌹𐌺-
𐌸𐌹𐌺 <i>tu</i> , or 𐌸𐌹𐌺𐌹𐌺.	<i>ma𐌹.</i>
𐌸𐌹𐌺 <i>re.</i>	𐌸𐌹𐌺 𐌸𐌹𐌺, 𐌸𐌹𐌺𐌰𐌹𐌺, or 𐌸𐌹𐌺-
	<i>b̄a𐌹.</i>
	𐌸𐌹𐌺 𐌸𐌹𐌺, 𐌸𐌹𐌺𐌰𐌹𐌺.

All the other inflections of this, are expressed by the preceding verb, except the subjunctive, which is also *ma 𐌹m if I do, &c.*

3.—ձԵՂԻ *say*.

Active Voice—Imperative Mood.

ձԵՂԻ *say thou* ; ձԵՂԻԾ *re*, &c.

Infinitive Mood and Participles.

ԾՕ ՈՐ Կ ՊԱԾ *to say*.*Present.* ԿՅ ՊԱԾ *saying*.*Past.* ՂԱՐ ՊԱԾ *having said*.*Future.* ԿՐ ԵՂ ՊԱԾ *about to say*.

Indicative Mood—Present Tense—Modern mode.

ԵՂԻՄ *I say*, ԵՂԻ ԵՄ, *re*, &c.

Antient mode.

ԵՂԻՄ *I say*.

ԵՂԻՐ.

ԵՂԻ Ե.

ԵՂԻՄԾ, ԵՂԵԱՄԱՐ.

ԵՂԻԷԾ, ԵՂԵԱԾԱՐ.

ԵՂԻԾ.

Past Tense—Modern mode.

ԾՆԾԱՂԵ ՄԵ, ԵՄ, &c.

Antient mode.

ԾՆԾԱՂ *I said*.

ԾՆԾԱՂ.

ԾՆԾԱՂԵ Ե.

ԾՆԾԱՄԱՐ.

ԾՆԾԱԾԱՐ.

ԾՆԾԱԾԱՐ.

Future Tense—Modern mode.

ԾԵՐՔԱԾ ՄԵ, ԵՄ, &c.

Antient mode.

ԾԵՐՔԱԾ *I will say*.

ԾԵՐՔԱՂ.

ԾԵՐՔԱԾ Ե.

ԾԵՐՔԱՄԱՐ.

ԾԵՐՔԱԾԱՐ.

ԾԵՐՔԱԾ.

Կ is often prefixed to the present and past tenses of this mood, as Կ ԵՂԻՄ *I say*; Կ ԾՆԾԱՂԵ *I said*.

Potential mood, ԾԵՐՔԱԾԻՊ, &c. Conditional mood, ԾԿ ՊԾԵՐՔԱԾԻՊ, &c. Consuetudinal mood, ԵՂԻՄ, ԵՂԵԱՊ ՄԵ, &c. as in ՄԵԱԼԼԱՄ.

Passive Voice—Imperative Mood.

ԱԾԱՐԵԱՐ *let it be said*.Participle—ՊԱԼԵ *was said*.

Indicative Mood.

Present. ծելլեալ *it is said.**Past.* ծոնած *it was said.**Future.* ծարբար *it shall be said.*Consuetudinal Mood—ծելլել *used to be said.*

Relatives in this verb.

Present tense. և ծելլ *that says.**Past.* և ծոնալիւ *that said.**Future.* և ծարբար *that will say.*

Interrogatives—Present Tense.

ան ծրայիմ *do I say?*

ան ծոնալար?

ան ծալիւ շի?

ան ծելլ լի՞ն?

ան ծալիւ լի?

ան ծելլի՞ծ?

So with the negative ոչ.

Past and future tenses as in the affirmative.

4.—ելլիմ *I come.*

Imperative Mood.

ար come thou.

տաճա՞ծ լի, արած, լիջեա՞ծ.

տաճա՞ծ լի, լիջեալա՞լիծ,

տաճալա՞լի.

տաճա՞ծ լի՛ն, լիջեա՞ծ.

տաճա՞ծ լիած, լիճի՞ծիւ, տա-

ճալի՞ծիւ.

Infinitive Mood and Participles.

ծօ օր և տեա՛լ *to come.**Present.* ևճ տեա՛լ *coming.**Past.* լար ծտեա՛լ. *having come.**Future.* ար և տեա՛լ. *about to come.*

Indicative Mood—Past Tense—Modern mode.

էալիլից մե *I came, &c.*

Antient mode.

էալիլիցար.

էալիլիլ, էալիլար.

էալիլից լի.

էալիլար, էալիլար.

էալիլար.

էալիլար, էալիլար.

Future Tense—Modern mode.

ելոքսն մե *I will come*, ելոքսն Ես, &c.

Antient mode.

Sing.

ելոքսն.
ելոքսիմ.
ելոքսն թե.

Plur.

ելոքսառօր, ելոքսառ.
ելոքսածար, ելոքսօրծե.
ելոքսիծ.

Relatives.

Present tense. էլիցար *that cometh.*
Past. Վ էլիցի *that came.*
Future. էլոքսար *that will come.*

Potential Mood. էլոքսիմ, &c.

Conditional Mood. Վճ ծելոքսիմ, &c.

5.—Ե or Եիծ *go*.

Imperative Mood.

Եիծ, լիմից *go thou*.

Եճճճ թե, լիմիցեծ թե,
Եիծ թե.

Եճճճ, օր լիմից քի, Եճճճ-
առօր, Եիծիմ, Եիծիմի,
լիմիցիմ, լիմիցիմի
Եճճճիմ, օր լիմից լիմ, լի-
միցե.

Եճճճ օր լիմից լիմ, Եճ-
ճճիմի, լիմիցիմ.

Infinitive Mood and Participles.

Ծօ, or Վ ծլ, or Ծ'լիմեճէ *to go*.

Present. ճլ ծլ, or ճլ լիմեճէ *going*.

Past. լար լիմ *gone*.

Future. ար Ե ծլ *about to go*.

Indicative Mood—Past Tense—Modern mode.

ճալծ մե *I went*, ճալծ Ես, &c.

Antient mode.

ճաճար *I went*.

ճաճար.

ճալծ թե.

ճա մ թ.

ճաճար.

ճաճար, ճ թճճճար.

Future Tense—Mod. mode.

բօժբած մե *I will go*, բօժբած Ես, &c.

Antient mode.

բօժբած.

բօժբալի.

բօժբալծ րե.

բօժբառաօլծ, բօժբառ.

բօժբածար, բօժբալծ.

բօժբալծ.

Potential Mood—բօժբալի, &c.

Conditional Mood—ծա բօժբալի, &c.

Consuetudinal Mood—Present Tense.

բօժբալի or շեյծլի; բօժբալի, or շեյծլի, մե, Ես *I usually go*, &c.

Past Tense.

ծօ բօժբալի, or ծօ շեյծլի *I used to go*, &c.

Relative—շեյծեած *that used to go*.

The following inflections of this verb are added from Neilson.

Past tense—Negative—ոյ ծեածար, or ոյ ծեածա մե *I did not go*; and interrogative of the same tense, Ես ծեածար *did I go*?

6.—ժլճլի *I see*.

Imperative Mood—Modern mode.

բլժ *see thou*, բլժլծ րե, &c. spelt also բլժ and բլւժ, &c.

Antient mode.

բլժ *see thou*.

բլժլծ րե.

բլժեառաօլի, բլժեռաօլծ.

բլժլծե.

բլժլծլի, բլժլծ.

Infinitive Mood and Participles.

բլժլի to see.

Indicative Mood—Present Tense. ժլճլի *I see*, &c.

Interrogative. Ես բլժլի, Ես բլժլեալ Ես *do I see*, &c.

Past Tense—Modern mode.

ժօհարիւր մե *I saw*, ժօհարիւր Էս, &c.

Antient mode.

ժօհարեալ *I saw*.

ժօհարեալիւ.

ժօհարեալիւ.

ժօհարեալ.

ժօհարեալ.

ժօհարեալ.

Interrogative—Ա երեւոյ, or երեւոյ մե *did I see*, &c.

Present Interrogative—Ա երեւոյի՞մ *do I see*?

Future Interrogative—Ան երեւոյեա՞ծ, *shall I see*?

Consuetudinal Mood.

Երեւոյիմ or ժիծիմ *I usually see*, երեւոյի, or երեւոյի Էս ;
or ժիծի, or ժիծեալիւ Էս, &c.

Passive Voice—Imperative Mood.

Երեւոյի, or ժիծեալ Էս *be thou seen*, &c.

Indicative Mood—Present Tense.

ժիծեալ մե, երեւոյի մե, *I am seen* &c.

Past Tense.

ժօհարեալ or ժօհարեալ մե, *I was seen*, &c.

Potential Mood.

Երեւոյի՞մ մե *I would be seen*, &c.

Conditional Mood.

Եւ երեւոյի՞մ մե *If I would be seen*, &c.

Consuetudinal Mood.

Երեւոյի՞մ or ժիծի՞մ *used to be seen*.

Neilson makes the negatives indic. to be ոչ երեւոյիմ *I do not see*, ոչ երեւոյիմ *I did not see*, and ոչ ժիծեալ *I shall not see*. He makes also երեւոյի, &c. to be the past, and երեւոյի the future tenses of the indic. passive voice. In his subjunctive mood likewise he conjugates the two verbs together, thus—մա ժիծեալ, or մա երեւոյի *if I be seen*.

7.—*cluḡ hear.* Active Voice.
 Infinitive Mood and Participles.
 Ծօ, or և լուրտի, or լօր *to hear.*

Present. և՛ լուրտի, լօր.

Past. յար չլուրտի, չլօր.

Future. ար էլ լուրտի, լօր.

Indicative Mood—Past Tense—Modern mode.
 լուլած մե *I heard, &c.*

Antient mode.

լուլար.
 լուլար.
 լուլած րե.

լուլամար.
 լուլածար.
 լուլածար.

Future Tense—Modern mode.
 լուրքեած մե *I will hear, &c.*

Antient mode.

լուրքիծ.
 լուրքի.
 լուրքեած րե.

լուրքեամար.
 լուրքեածար.
 լուրքիծ.



Also լօրքեած, &c. (*O'Reilly.*)

Passive Voice—Infinitive Mood.
 Ծօ, or և իլի լուրտե.

Indicative Mood—Past Tense.
 լուլած or լուրեած մե *I was heard, &c.*

Also լուլար. (*Neilson.*)

Future Tense.

լուրքեար մե *I will be heard, &c.*

Consuetudinal Mood.

լուրիծ մե *I used to be heard, &c.*

8.—*բեր take, bear, carry, bring forth.*

Infinitive Mood.

Ծօ, or և իլիլի *to take.*

Participles. ւոյ Բրեյտ, &c.

Indicative Mood—Past Tense—Modern mode.

նոյ մե *I took*, նոյ Ես, &c.

Antient mode.

նոյար.

նոյար.

նոյ Ես.

նոյար.

նոյար.

նոյար.

Passive Voice—Indicative Mood—Past Tense.

նոյ մե, *I was taken*, &c.

9. Երբեք *I give*.

Active Voice—Imperative Mood—Modern mode.

Երբեք, or Երբեք *give thou*; Երբեք, or Երբեք Ես, &c.

Antient mode.

Երբեք *give thou*.

Երբեք, or Երբեք Ես.

Երբեք, or Երբեք.

Երբեք, Երբեք.

Երբեք, Երբեք.

Infinitive Mood and Participles.

Ես, or Երբեք *to give*, ւոյ Երբեք *giving*, &c.

Indicative Mood—Past Tense—Modern mode.

Ես մե *I gave*, &c.

Antient mode.

Եսար.

Եսար.

Ես Ես.

Եսար.

Եսար.

Եսար.

The Potential Mood is regular, but the Conditional is thus—Modern mode.

Ես Երբեք, or Ես Երբեք *if I would give*, Ես Երբեք, or Ես Երբեք Ես, &c.

Antient mode.

Ես Երբեք.

Ես Երբեք.

Ես Երբեք Ես.

Ես Երբեք.

Ես Երբեք, Ես Երբեք.

Ես Երբեք.

Or by Ես Երբեք, &c.

Consuetudinal Mood.

բայրի, շնորհ, շնորհաբան, or շնորհաբան մե, *I usually gave.*

Passive Voice—Imperative Mood.

բարձր or շնորհաբան տու *be thou given, &c.*

Infinitive Mood.

տու, or շնորհաբան *to be given.*

Indicative Mood—Present Tense.

բարձր մե or շնորհաբան մե *I am given, &c.*

Past Tense.

շնորհաբան մե *I was given, &c.*

Future Tense.

բարձրաբան մե or շնորհաբանաբան մե *I shall be given, &c.*

Consuetudinal Mood.

բարձրած, շնորհաբանած, or շնորհաբանած *used to be given.*

10.—Բաց գտնել or get.

Active Voice—Infinitive Mood and Participles.

Բաց գտնել *to find*, Բաց գտնալ, &c.

Indicative Mood—Past Tense—Modern mode.

Բաց գտնալ մե *I found, &c.*

Ancient mode.

Բաց գտնալ.	Բաց գտնալաբան.
Բաց գտնալի.	Բաց գտնալած.
Բաց գտնալի րե.	Բաց գտնալած.

Future Tense—Modern mode.

Բաց գտնալ մե, or Բաց գտնալաբան մե *I will find, &c.*

Ancient mode.

Բաց գտնալաբան <i>I will or shall find.</i>	Բաց գտնալաբան.
Բաց գտնալի.	Բաց գտնալած րի.
Բաց գտնալի րե.	Բաց գտնալած.

or Բաց գտնալ, Բաց գտնալած, &c. similarly conjugated.

Negative. *ոյ թօշայմ, or թօշա մե I will not find.*

Potential Mood.

Sing.

չեմբօյն I would find.

չեմբօծ.

չեմբօծ րե.

Plur.

չեմբօծ րին, չեմբօթամօյր.

չեմբօծ րիծ.

չեմբօծ իս, չեմբօթամօյր.

or թօշայն, similarly conjugated.

Conditional Mood.

ծա եթօշօյն if I would find. &c.

Consuetudinal Mood.

չեիծն մե I use to find, &c.

Passive Voice—Indicative Mood—Present Tense.

թօշեար, or րիւթար մե I am found, &c.

Past Tense.

րիւծ, րիւթած, or րսարած մե I was found, &c.

Future Tense.

չեմբար մե, or թօշթար մե I will be found, &c.

Potential Mood.

չեմբօյծ մե, or թօշթիւծ մե I would be found, &c.

Conditional Mood.

ծա չեմբօյծե if I would be found, &c.

Consuetudinal Mood.

թօշեօյծ, թօշեծ, or չեմբեօյծ used to be found.

11.—*րիշ reach, or arrive at.*

Infinitive Mood and Participle.

ծօ or Կ թօշայն, or յիւծայն to reach, &c.

ԿՅ թօշայն, or յիւծայն reaching.

Indicative Mood—Past Tense—Modern mode.

յիւծե, or յիւցից մե I reached &c.

Antient mode.

յիւծար, յիւցար.

յիւծայր, յիւցայր.

յիւծե, յիւցից.

յիւծեամար, յիւցեամար.

յիւծեան, յիւցան.

յիւծեալար, յիւցալար,

յիւցալար.

Future Tense—Modern mode.

𐎧𐎠𐎠𐎥𐎢𐎠𐎠, 𐎧𐎠𐎥𐎢𐎠𐎠 *me I will reach, &c.*

Antient mode.

𐎧𐎠𐎠𐎥𐎢𐎠𐎠, 𐎧𐎠𐎥𐎢𐎠𐎠.

𐎧𐎠𐎥𐎢𐎠𐎠.

𐎧𐎠𐎥𐎢𐎠𐎠.

𐎧𐎠𐎥𐎢𐎠𐎠𐎠𐎠.

𐎧𐎠𐎥𐎢𐎠𐎠 𐎧𐎠𐎠.

𐎧𐎠𐎥𐎢𐎠𐎠.

Consuetudinal Mood.

𐎧𐎠𐎠𐎥𐎢𐎠𐎠, 𐎧𐎠𐎥𐎢𐎠𐎠 *I used to reach, &c.*

ADVERBS.

Adverbs express circumstances of quality, manner, time, place, &c. in nouns and verbs; and a noun substantive or adjective becomes an adverb, by prefixing *an* to the former, or *zo* to the latter; thus, *an ccvl back*, or *away*; *zo holc badly*.

Although a list of Adverbs belongs more properly to a Dictionary, it will not be amiss to mention some of the most common here.

𐎠 𐎢𐎢𐎠 *far off.*

𐎠 𐎢𐎢𐎠𐎠 *in presence of.*

𐎠 𐎢𐎢𐎠𐎠 *near.*

𐎠 𐎢𐎢𐎠 *on this side.*

𐎠 𐎠𐎠𐎠𐎠 *ever.*

𐎠 𐎥𐎠𐎠𐎠𐎠 *opposite.*

𐎠𐎠 *near.*

𐎠𐎠 𐎠𐎥𐎢𐎠𐎠 *opposite.*

𐎠𐎠 𐎢𐎢𐎠 *along.*

𐎠𐎠 𐎢𐎢𐎠 *throughout.*

𐎠𐎠 𐎢𐎢𐎠 *amongst.*

𐎠𐎠 𐎥𐎠𐎠 *backwards.*

𐎠𐎠 𐎠𐎠𐎠 *by turns.*

𐎠𐎠, & 𐎠𐎠 𐎠𐎠 *afterwards,*
backwards.

𐎠𐎠 𐎠𐎠𐎠𐎠 *sometimes.*

𐎠𐎠𐎠, 𐎠𐎠𐎠𐎠 *out, without.*

𐎠𐎠𐎠 *like, as.*

𐎠𐎠𐎠 *only, except, alone.*

𐎠𐎠𐎠𐎠 *to-morrow.*

𐎠𐎠𐎠𐎠 *so, equal.*

𐎠 𐎠𐎠𐎠𐎠 *amidst.*

𐎠 𐎠𐎠 [𐎠𐎠 𐎠𐎠] *hither,*
over.

𐎠𐎠𐎠𐎠 *formerly.*

𐎠 𐎠𐎠, 𐎠 𐎠𐎠 *yesterday.*

𐎠 𐎠𐎠𐎠𐎠𐎠, 𐎠𐎠𐎠 *together.*

𐎠𐎠𐎠 *close to.*

𐎠𐎠𐎠 *westerly.*

ahoiſi *easterly.*
 a, or uað þðear *southerly.*
 a, or uað tūaþð *northerly.*
 ahiuʒ *to-day.*
 ahoct *to-night.*
 ahoſor *from below.*
 ahuar *from above.*
 aḥað *seldom.*
 ahoiſr, *now.*
 a hoḥ 7 a hall *to and fro.*
 antan *when.*
 a hun *thither.*
 apeiðſi, or aḥiſi *last night.*
 ahiam, hiām *ever.*
 ahiſr *again.*
 aſ teac, aſ tiʒ *within.*
 a ttoſac *at first.*
 beʒ ḥac *almost.*
 bun or cſon *topsy turvey.*
 ceana, *already, however.*
 cum *in order to.*
 deiſr *after.*
 do tūað *northwards.*
 do ðear *southwards.*
 do ʒḥac *usually.*
 eaðon *namely, viz.*
 fa *towards.*
 fa cūl *backwards.*
 fa ðeoſʒ. fa ðeiſneað *last-*
 ly, at length.
 fa ðð *twice.*
 fa leac, fa feac *apart,*
 successively.
 feaſða *henceforth.*
 foſ *yet, moreover.*
 ʒe ʒun *although.*
 ʒiðeað *nevertheless.*
 ʒo, ʒo ðci, ʒo huʒe *until.*
 ʒo ahiþð *at least.*

ʒo foſl *yet, hereafter.*
 ʒo mðriḥðri *especially.*
 ʒomoriſo, or umoriſo *more-*
 over.
 ʒonaſ, ḥa, ʒona *than.*
 maſ, muſ *as, likewise.*
 maſ an ʒceaðḥa *likewise.*
 maſ aon *together.*
 maſ ſo *even thus.*
 maſeað *why.*
 mo *than.*
 ḥac, ḥi *not.*
 no *else.*
 ð *since.*
 ð cēſle *asunder.*
 or, [uað iſr,] *since.*
 or ahiþð *publicly.*
 or iſſol *privately.*
 or cean, or cſoḥ *above, su-*
 perior to.
 o ſoḥ *thence.*
 ne cēſle *together.*
 þo *very.*
 ʒoſiḥ *timely, soon.*
 ſeac *rather, else.*
 ſiāſi *westwards.*
 ſōſi *eastwards.*
 ſſoſ *downwards.*
 ſſoſ *below.*
 ſuaſ, *upwards, aloft.*
 ſuaſ *above.*
 ſul *before, until.*
 tcall *on the other side.*
 tamal *awhile.*
 taneſſr, [tan aſr,] *after-*
 wards.
 tne ſiḥ *therefore.*
 tuille foſ, or eſle *moreover.*
 vime ſo, uime ſiḥ *therefore.*

The following Adverbial Particles, when united to words, give them a negative, intensitive, or reiterative character.

Negatives, operating as *de, dis, &c.* in English.

am̄, an̄, do, di, ead̄, eaz̄, ear̄, m̄, neam̄.

Ex. mō prosperity, anmō adversity; carajb a friend, ercarajb an enemy, &c.

Intensitives—an, ʒle, ʒom, up; as ʒnañā *ugly*, up-ʒnañā *very ugly*: the an is sometimes written without the a, before a vowel. Reiterative—ad̄; as buajlce *beaten*, ad̄buajlce *beaten again*. ʒn and ʒon betoken fitness or propriety; as dean̄ta *done*, ʒndeān̄ta *proper to be done*. ʒn, oʒ and eoʒ are diminutives, when at the end of words. ro signifies *goodness, aptness, facility*; as roblar̄da *well flavored*; roleaz̄ta *fusible*, from ro leaz̄ta *fit to be fused*. com̄ denotes *equality*; as tnom̄ *weight*, com̄tnom̄ *equal weight*. am̄ betokens *similitude*—it is from am̄uyl̄.

The signs of the comparative and superlative degrees, and of the infinitive and other moods, have been already noticed.

Mr. O'Brien says that these particles properly admit of no change in their orthography, on account of the poetical rule of caol ne caol 7 leat̄an ne leat̄an already alluded to, in the composition of words.

PREPOSITIONS.

Prepositions are such as either never join with pronouns in compounds, or such as may be thus combined; of the first kind are the following:

a *in, out of.*

dañ *by.*

fa *about, unto.*

fab *among.*

ʒan *without.*

ʒo, ʒur̄ *to.*

ʒañ *after.*

m̄añ *as, like.*

or <i>above, over.</i>	<i>reac̣, reac̣a in comparison</i>
peſſ according to.	<i>with.</i>
ſſa before.	<i>τῑṃc̣ſoll about.</i>
ſa, ſan in ; (contractions from anſa.)	<i>τῑſḅ through.</i>

ſa is however used in composition with *ḏſaſ̣*, &c. though not with pronouns ; *ſaſ* is also sometimes compounded with substantives, as *ſaſ-ball a tail.*

Prepositions which unite in compounds with pronouns.

at, with.	<i>le with.</i>
an, an̄ in.	<i>ō from.</i>
an, aſſ on, upon.	<i>ſe, ſſr with.</i>
aſ out of.	<i>ſollṃ before.</i>
cūſe towards.	<i>reac̣ by, besides, without,</i>
cūm to, unto.	<i>except.</i>
de, ḏſ of, by, off, from.	<i>τaſ over, across, above, in</i>
do to.	<i>preference to.</i>
eſḏſſ, ḏſſſ between.	<i>τſe, τſſ through.</i>
ſa, ſo, ſu, ſaſſ, ſſḏ under.	<i>uaḏ from.</i>
ſon in.	<i>um, uſm, uſme about, upon.</i>

To the prepositions we may add *a τaob*, and *ḏo τaob* concerning ; and *aḡaſḏ* against, a metaphorical use of *aḡaſḏ* the face, and in frequent use, thus—*aſṃ aḡaſḏ* in opposition to me.

CONJUNCTIONS.

These are used to connect the parts of sentences together ; and are, 1. copulative, 2. disjunctive, and 3. conditional.

The copulative is *aḡur* ; sometimes written in ancient MSS. thus—*acaſ, ocuſ* ; and still often used in these contracted forms, *aſ, ſſ, and ſ*.

The disjunctive are *aḡ, aḡḏ but* ; *no or, nor, neither.*

The conditional are

ბიობ *although.*

და *if.*

ბო ბრჳ *because.*

ჲე, ჲიბ *though.*

ჲო, ჲური, ჲურიბ *that.*

მა, მარ, (მა რ,) მო *if.*

მუნა, მური *unless.*

ბირ *for, because that.*

I have put many of the conjunctions of some of the Grammarians among the adverbs, to which they properly belong.

INTERJECTIONS.

ა *oh!*

ატ ატ *hey-dey!*

ადბო *murder! (the war cry.)*

არ ტრუაჲ *woe!*

ბად *death!*

ბუბ *nonsense!*

ბაბა *brave!*

ეირ *hush! hark!*

ჲეუბ *look!*

ჲა რაონ *alas!*

ჲულილუბ *halloo!*

იობ იობ *cold!*

მაირჲ *woe!*

მო ნუაირ *lack-a-day!*

მო ნაირე *shame!*

ობ, უბ, ბაბ, ბაბ *alas!*

PART III.

OF COMBINATIONS OF WORDS,

OR

SYNTAX.

I SHALL not here repeat such rules of Syntax as it was necessary to notice in the preceding parts of this Grammar, and shall omit such as are not agreed on among preceding grammarians.

The ARTICLE.

1.—The Article agrees with its Substantive, in gender, number, and case; it is always placed before it, unless an adjective intervene: we have already seen what initial changes it causes in Nouns.

2.—When the Article is preceded by a Particle ending in a vowel, the *a* is omitted, and the *n* is united to the Particle; an apostrophe should properly be placed between them—

Ex. ɔo'n, for ɔo na, ʒcaɪlɪn *to the girl.*

If the particle be *a* in, the article is omitted, as *a* bɛɪʌɔɪɪɾe *in the presence*; if it be *an* in, the article requires *r* to be prefixed, as *a*h ɾan *in the*. In this case, if the following noun begin with a vowel, the *n* is united to it, with an apostrophe, thus—*a*h ɾa n'uɪɪɾ *in the hour*; but if with a consonant, the *n* is omitted, as *a*h ɾa ɔɪɪʒ *in the house*.

3.—When two substantives come together, one governing the other in the genitive case, the article is omitted from the first substantive, and sometimes omitted altogether; as *mac an baɪɪɔ the son of the bard*, *Caɪɾlean Cɪllemoɪɾe the Castle of Kilmore*: the latter case occurs, when there is no limit in the signification of the substantives, or where the noun governed is a proper name.

4.—If a possessive pronoun be joined to the noun governed, the article is omitted; as $\sigma\beta\alpha\iota\tau$, (not $\alpha\eta\ \sigma\beta\alpha\iota\tau$,) $\alpha\tau\ \lambda\alpha\iota\eta$ *the work of our hands*.

NOUNS.

5.—When two substantives signifying different things come together, the latter is in the genitive case; the substantive is put in the same case also, if it follow the active infinitive, or participles, thus— $\iota\alpha\tau\ \mu\epsilon\alpha\lambda\lambda\alpha\delta\ \alpha\ \dot{\sigma}\alpha\mu\alpha\eta$ *after the deceiving of his friend*.

6.—Substantives signifying the same person or thing require the adjective between them; and, in poetry, compound substantives sometimes have the adjective inserted between the parts of the compound.

7.—An adjective is usually placed after its substantive in the sentence; except sometimes, when it is strongly predicated of the noun, thus— $\iota\tau\ \lambda\alpha\iota\beta\iota\tau\ \alpha\eta\ \tau\epsilon\tau\tau\ \tau\iota\eta$ *that is a strong man*: or, being of one syllable, it may combine with it as a compound, thus — $\sigma\gamma\text{-}\mu\alpha\tau\epsilon$ *a heifer*, literally, young beef; and in the latter case the initial of the substantive must in general be aspirated.

Initial aspirations, &c. shall be treated of separately.

8.—An adjective agrees with its substantive in gender, number, and case; but not necessarily—1. where the adjective is in the predicate of a sentence, and the noun the subject, as $\alpha\tau\alpha\iota\delta\ \dot{\epsilon}\alpha\tau\epsilon\eta\tau\alpha\tau\alpha\ \nu\lambda\epsilon\ \tau\iota\text{-}\tau\iota\eta\epsilon\alpha\dot{\varsigma}$ *all thy commandments are faithful*; or 2. when the adjective modifies the verb, and not the substantive, as $\tau\iota\eta\ \mu\epsilon\ \alpha\eta\ \tau\epsilon\iota\alpha\eta\ \tau\epsilon\upsilon\tau$ *I made the knife sharp*, (*I sharpened the knife*;) but, if I would say *I made the sharp knife*, it must be thus— $\tau\iota\eta\ \mu\epsilon\ \alpha\eta\ \tau\epsilon\iota\alpha\eta\ \tau\epsilon\upsilon\tau$, aspirating the initial to make it agree with the feminine substantive.

9.—Adjectives signifying profit, proximity, fitness, or the reverse, require a dative case; such as denote skill, knowledge, power, dimension, &c. require the same case, governed by the preposition $\alpha\iota\tau$, or sometimes by $\sigma\epsilon$; while those which signify equality, or

similitude, (and, as Neilson adds, emotion of mind,) require a dative also, but governed by the prepositions *le* or *ne*.

10.—All numerals up to 10, or any multiples of 10, are placed before their nouns; but other numbers have the noun between the words composing them, thus—*re cpañ ap řicřt twenty-six trees*. This rule, as given by Neilson, requires the noun to be thus placed, whenever the numeral is expressed by two or more words.

11.—The numeral 2, and all the multiples of 10, prefixed to a substantive, have it in the singular number, thus—*da řearp two men*, *da řearp deaz twenty men*; but, if an adjective be added, that must be in the plural, thus—*da cpañ mopa two great trees*.

This singular rule induced some grammarians to suppose that there was a dual number in this tongue; but it applies as well to the use of the numbers 20, 100, and 1000, as to that of 2. Neilson says, that after *da* the noun must be in the ablative case.

PRONOUNS.

12.—The personal pronouns, in which alone there is a distinction of case, agree with their antecedent in gender, number, and case.

13.—If the antecedent be a sentence, the pronoun agreeing with it must be in the third person singular: if it be a noun of multitude, or consist of two persons or things, the pronoun must be in the third person plural; as, *řponř do řioř ne řořla ap wuř řad they were a people that were robbers at sea*.

14.—Possessive pronouns are used in a singular manner, in connection with nouns or verbs signifying office, condition, position, or identity, thus *řiř mē mo řiř I was a king*; this, if literally translated, would be *I was my king*, &c. The Scotch sometimes translate this idiom, in using the English tongue, ex. gr. they say, *he was his lane*, for *he was alone*. The instance of the reflected verb will present to the student another example of this peculiar mode of expression. In such sentences the phrase, *in my state of*, or such like, is

understood. The article is sometimes used in a similar way, thus—*ta fe na fearaí he is standing.*

15.—The compound possessive pronouns require a dative case, as *am tíg in my house.*

16.—Relative pronouns always precede the verb, but they are often only understood, and not expressed.

17.—Demonstrative pronouns immediately follow the noun to which they belong, as, *an fear ro this man*; except the substantive verb be understood, in which case they precede it, thus—*ro an fear here is the man.*

18.—Interrogative pronouns always precede the noun or verb to which they belong; and they combine with the personal pronouns in the asking of questions, without the aid of the substantive verb, thus—*an e an fear is he the man?*

VERBS.

19.—The verb agrees with its nominative, which generally follows it, in number and person.

20.—Active verbs govern the accusative case.

21.—If two or more nouns join to form the nominative case, and the first of them be in the singular number, the verb must be so too, even though the others be in the plural; and, if the nominative case be a noun of multitude, the verb must be in the plural.

22.—The particle *do* must be used in the past tense of verbs beginning with an *f*, or a vowel; but in all others it may be omitted: and, when used as above, it loses the *o* in the active voice, and unites with the verb, thus—*d'aicín he knew.*

23.—The accusative case is never put between the nominative and the verb.

24.—The auxiliary verb is often elegantly omitted.

Ex. déir (is) éirín ar nOia for he (is) our God.

25.—The instance of a nominative case before a participle in English, as *the man being dead*, (or the ablative absolute in Latin,) is expressed in Irish by a dative case, with the preposition *do*, thus—*air mbeiré do'n fíir marb.*

26.—The Infinitive mood and participles govern a genitive case, when the action refers to a determinate object, and follows the verb, as *ḡa čeaḡač aḡ čapvɪl to buy the mare*; but, if the object be not determinate, it goes before the verb like the nominative, as *čapvɪl a čeaḡač to buy a mare*. If the object, though determinate, precede the verb, it will be in the accusative, as *aḡ tōɪ do řaḡtač to covet the gold*.

27.—The auxiliary verbs, with the aid of a noun, and certain prepositions united with personal pronouns, supply the place of verbs signifying power, necessity, want, knowledge, possession, or any affection of the body or mind, thus—*ča aɪɪʒɪob aʒam I have money*; *buš ocɪaɪ oɪɪa they were hungry*. The prepositions thus used are *do* and *le*, with *aɪ*, *ɪɪ*, or *bɪ*; and *aʒ*, *aɪ*, and *uaš* with *bɪ*, *ɪuɪl*, *ča* and *ɪaɪb*.

28.—When *aɪ* or *ɪɪ* follow a word ending with a vowel, or *ba* or *buš* precede a word beginning with one, the verb unites with the word, thus—*maɪ [maɪɪ] řɪoɪ ɪɪv if that be true*; *b'eɪʒeaḡ daɪn I was obliged*.

29.—The present participle, with the auxiliary verb, is used to express the continuance of a thing; thus—*ča me aʒ leaʒač mo leačaɪ I am reading my book*.

PREPOSITIONS.

30.—*aḡ in* has *ɪa* subjoined to it, when before a consonant. The prepositions *a*, *ɪ*, *ʒo*, *le*, *ɪe*, and *ɪeɪ*, have an *ɪ* added to them where they precede an article, thus—*aɪ*, *ɪɪ*, *ʒuɪɪ*, *leɪɪ*, *ɪuɪɪ*, *ɪeɪɪ*.

31.—When *de*, the contraction of *do e of it*, is used to express the comparative degree, the word *'ḡa*, or *ɪoḡa than*, is never used before the noun.

32.—A preposition prefixed to *a which* requires the subjunctive mood, as *aɪɪ ɪḡ a ɪaɪb řɪḡ the place where Finn was*; if the preposition be understood, and if the *ɪ in ɪḡ* be omitted for the sake of euphony, the *n* must still be retained, and written thus—*'ḡa ɪaɪb in which he was*.

33.—The measure or extent of a thing is expressed by *aɪɪ*, thus—*ḡa ɪɪoɪʒ aɪɪ aɪɪde two feet high*.

CONJUNCTIONS.

34.—The conjunctions *azur* *and*, and *no or*, couple the same cases of nouns.

35.—*azur* is often contracted into *ar* and *r*, so also is the auxiliary verb *ir* often written *r*; when *ar* and *ir* meet together they are contracted into '*rar*', as '*rar mór an obáir* *and great is the work* ; and, when the vocative case follows '*r*', the vocative sign is added to it, thus—'*ra óra* *and, oh God!*

36.—When two or more adjectives come together, which are relatives to the same substantives, *azur* is often omitted, as *ca rí óz mairec* *she is young (and) beautiful*.

37.—The negative generally precedes the disjunctive.

INTERJECTIONS.

38.—None of the interjections govern a case, except only *mairé*, which requires a dative.



ASPIRATION, &c.

I have thought that it would afford considerable assistance to the learner, were the several cases brought together, in which the aspiration and eclipsing of initial consonants occur: for his information, therefore, I shall present them in two tables; and, as in some degree connected with the same subject, shall superadd lists of the instances in which the letters *d*, *h*, *m*, *n*, and *t*, are prefixed to original words. The student must be well acquainted with the last six tables, or he will not be able to consult the Irish English Dictionary; they are all of them indispensably necessary towards the knowledge of the language.

I.—Cases in which the aspiration of the initial consonant takes place, if it be capable of undergoing that change.

1.—Nouns after the article, in the 3d and 4th declensions, as already stated.

2.—All vocative cases, except in nouns beginning with a *t*, followed by a consonant.

3.—Nouns substantive, when they follow an adjective in a compound word; unless they commence with *d*, *s*, or *t*, preceded by an adjective ending with *n*.

4.—Adjectives following substantives, (except their initials be *d*, *s*, or *t*, after one ending in *n*,) in the nom. dat. and voc. sing. of the fem. gender; and in the gen. dat. and voc. sing. masc. gender; also in the gen. fem. plural.

5.—Where one substantive governs another in the genitive plural, the latter may be aspirated, though the article be not used, as *ḡṛṫ ḡḃḃḃḃḡḡ the blood of goats.* (*Neilson.*)

6.—Masculine adjectives, after the auxiliary verbs *bḃ* and *bṛḃ*, unless they begin with *b* or *t*.

7.—All adjectives in the superlative degree of comparison.

8.—Nouns following the numbers *ḃḡṇ* and *bḡ*, except the initial letter be a *b* or *t* after *ḃḡṇ*.

9.—Nouns following the possessive pronouns in the

singular number, excepting the third person in the feminine gender, and also excepting nouns beginning with *s*.

10.—Compound possessive pronouns have the same influence as their primitives on the initials of nouns following them.

11.—The datives of personal pronouns are aspirated or not, according as may sound best; but they are never so after *ð*, *ŋ*, or *ɾ*, thus—*ʃeəpɪ ðuɪɾ*, or *ðuɪɾ*, *it is better for you*; and *ɪɾ mɪʌŋ ðaŋ* *I desire*.

12.—The relative pronouns aspirate the initial consonant in the active voice.

13.—The past tense of verbs,

14.—The infinitive mood and the past participle, unless this latter can be eclipsed, and

15.—The potential mood, have their initials aspirated.

16.—The interrogative participle *cɪʌ* causes aspiration.

17.—Interrogative participles cause aspiration in the past tense of the active voice.

18.—The negative participles aspirate the initial in both voices. (*O'Reilly*.)

19.—The intensitive* adverbs *əŋ*, *ʒle*, *no* and *ɾaɾ* aspirate, unless the following initial be *ð* *ɾ* or *ɾ*; also, the adverbial participles *ŋač*, *ŋɪ* *not*, *ó* *since*, *məɾ* *as*, and *ɪoŋʌ* *than*, cause aspiration.

20.—The prepositions *ə*, *ðe*, *ðo*, *ʃə*, *ʃəoɪ*, *ʃvɪð*, *ɪðɪɾ*, *məɾ*, *o*, *noɪŋ*, *ɾaɾ*, and *ɾne*, produce aspiration; *ðe* and *ðo* aspirate the following noun, even though an article intervene, except in the case of an *ɾ*; *əɪɾ* sometimes aspirates, and sometimes not; *ʒaŋ* will indifferently require an aspirate, or the primary form, in the following noun.

* There is much difference of opinion between grammarians respecting the influence of particles on aspiration; and indeed, as Neilson observes, there is some difference between the several inhabitants of distinct provinces—I chiefly follow O'Brien and O'Reilly.

21.—The conjunctions $\gamma\upsilon\eta$, $\mu\alpha$, $\mu\upsilon\eta\alpha$ create aspiration; $\mu\alpha$ *if*, and the adverb δ *since*, cause it in the initial of verbs, excepting $\tau\alpha$.

22.—The interjection *a*, as a sign of the vocative case, causes aspiration.

II.—Eclipsis of initial consonants takes place in the following cases.

1.—In nouns of the 3d and 4th declensions, after the article, as before specified.

2.—If two nouns follow each other, and the article be omitted, the second is eclipsed, thus—*אין שׂמך ןׁוֹה* *for the love of God*. Neilson says that it must be aspirated, in the genitive plural.

3.—The genitive singular of adjectives following substantives in the feminine gender, except they begin with *d*, *s*, or *t*, and the substantive end with *n*. They are also often eclipsed, instead of aspirated, in such instances, in the dat. sing. and gen. plural, in the feminine gender. (*Neilson.*)

4.—After the numerals 7, 8, 9, and 10.

5.—Nouns in the plural, after the possessive pronoun, unless they begin with an *s*.

6.—Verbs, in the conditional mood ;

7.—And after interrogatives in the present and future tenses.

8.—The participle past.

9.—The prepositions *out of*, אִין, אֵין, וּן, וּן, and וּן cause eclipsis.

10.—When the article comes between one of the prepositions, ἄγ, ἀπρ, ἀρ, ἐκ, ἐξ, ἐν, ἐνδ, ὑπρ, ὑπ, λεῖρ, μαρ, δ, πρ, προμ, περ, παρ, or τρε, and a noun in the singular number, the noun is eclipsed, as ἀρ ἡν οὐραν *out of the country*—δε and δο generally cause aspiration in such a case; but if the noun begin with ρ, it will be eclipsed.

11.—The conjunction **३५** *if*, causes eclipsis in active verbs.

III.—The letter *o* is frequently used as a prefix to words, as in the following cases, besides those in which it eclipses *τ*.

1.—*o* before a vowel, or an *τ* commencing a verb, in the past tense of the active voice, drops the *o*, and unites with the verb.

2.—*o* *thy*, before a noun beginning with *τ*, loses the *o*, and joins with the noun, eclipsing the initial, thus—*o* *τ* *τ* *τ* *τ* *thy* *anger*, but this should be properly written, thus—*o* *τ* *τ* *τ* *τ*.

IV.—The letter *h* is added as a prefix to the following words, beginning with vowels.

1.—To nouns after the article, in the genitive singular of the first declension; and in all the cases of the plural, except the genitive, of the first and second declensions.

2.—To nouns, after the feminine possessive pronoun, in the third person singular.

3.—Nouns after the possessive pronoun *thy*, in which case *o* is frequently exchanged for *h*.

4.—Verbs, after the adverbial particles *η*, *η* *τ*, *not*; and *η* *τ*, *η* *τ* *τ* *τ* *not*?

5.—Nouns, after the prepositions *a* *out of*, *τ* *o*, *le*, *δ*, *ne*, and *τ* *ne*.

V.—*M*. when *mo* *my* occurs before a noun beginning with a vowel, or an *τ*, it drops the *o*, and unites with the word, thus—*η* *τ* *τ* *τ* *my* *soul*, *η* *τ* *τ* *τ* *for* *mo* *τ* *τ* *τ* *my* *husband*.

VI.—*N*. besides where it eclipses *d* or *g*, is prefixed to words commencing with vowels—

1.—In the genitive plural of nouns—but here it may be more properly considered as being separated from the article to which it belongs.

2.—To nouns after the plural possessive pronouns.

3.—To the possessive pronoun in the third person of both numbers, after the prepositions *so*, *le*, *ô*, *me*, and *me*.

4.—To verbs in the conditional mood.

5.—To verbs in the active voice, and after the interrogative particle.

6.—Not only to words beginning with vowels, but the letter *r*, after the conjunction *noç* *not*.

7.—To words following the prepositions *in*, and *so that*.

8.—As a part of the intensitive *in*, the *i* being dropped, thus—*n'iaṛṛiaim* *I beseech*, from *iaṛṛiaim* *I ask*.

In general, the same accidents which cause eclipsis in consonants, require the prefix of *n* to vowels.

VII.—The letter *r*, besides the cases wherein it eclipses *r*, occurs before vowels as a prefix—

1.—To masculine adjectives, in the nominative and accusative singular.

2.—Masculine adjectives preceding substantives require it in the dative singular, as well as in the nominative; feminine adjectives require it in the genitive singular. In the plural, it will in such a case be prefixed to the nominative and dative of both genders.

3.—*so thy* before a vowel. or *r*, is sometimes changed into *r*, as well as into *h*, and then the *r* is lost in the pronunciation, as *r'feap*, *thy husband*. (*O'Reilly, on letter r.*)

I shall here subjoin a table of the different significations of the particles *in* and *so*. The learner will be greatly assisted by making himself well acquainted with them.

in is 1.—used sometimes for the article *the*.

2.—It is a substantive, with several significations.

3.—An adjective, as *lofty*, &c.

4.—A possessive pronoun—*his*, *her*, *its*, *their*.

5.—A relative pronoun—*that*, *who*, *which*.

ⲁ is 6.—A sign of the infinitive mood.

7.—A preposition—*in*.

8.—A sign of the vocative case.

9.—A mark of interrogation.

10.—A sign of affirmation, as ⲁ ⲧⲁⲓⲙ.

Ⲑⲟ is 1.—A sign of the dative case.

2.—*Thy* the genitive of ⲧⲁ.

3.—The possessive pronoun—*thy, thine, your*.

4.—A sign of the infinitive mood.

5.—Generally used as a sign of the indicative mood, past tense ; and of the potential mood.

6.—A particle of negation.

7.—With ⲣⲁ, as ⲣⲁ ⲃⲟ *twice*.

FINIS.

APPENDIX.

I SHALL transcribe, from Neilson's Grammar, an account of the differences of pronunciation of Irish words in the different Provinces of Ireland; and present them, without any comment, on his authority, which is deservedly esteemed.

In general the accent falls on the first syllables, and this principle is observed in the north of Ireland; as, *apən bread*; *paɾən a razor*: but, in the south and west, they say *apən, paɾún, &c.*

Again, when *η* follows *c, ʒ, m, or t*, it is pronounced in the north like *ɾ*—as, *cɾam a bone, cɾam*; but in the south and west the true pronunciation is retained.

ʒ or *m*, when aspirated, was originally sounded as *v*. This ancient pronunciation is still used in the north of Ireland, and in Scotland, and the Isle of Man. It is also retained in the south, in the beginning of words; and in the middle, if joined by a small vowel. But, if the next vowel be broad, as in the word *ɾoʒmɾ harvet*, which should be pronounced *fɔvar*, those of the south entirely suppress the consonant; and, contracting the two syllables into one, they say, *fɔar*.

Throughout Connaught, Leinster, and some counties of Ulster, the sound of *w* is substituted for that of *v*, to represent *b*, and *m*. Thus, *mo mac, my son*, (properly sounded, *mo vac*,) is pronounced, *mo wac*.

Ch, at the end of words or syllables, is very weakly expressed by the natives of Ulster; *ac* receives no more force, than if it were written *ah*; and *c*, before *t*, is quite silent in all the country along the sea coast, from Derry to Waterford; thus, *bɪ ɔuɪne boct there was a poor man*, is there pronounced, *bɪ ɔuɪne bɔc*.

Th is also omitted in pronouncing many words, such as *aɾaɪɾ father, maɾaɪɾ mother, &c.* in most of the counties of Ulster, and the east of Leinster, where these words are pronounced as if written *aaɪɾ, maɾaɪɾ*.

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